



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.faihuccmuscatine.com](http://www.faihuccmuscatine.com)

**Church Office Hours**

10 a.m. — 4 p.m.  
Monday - Friday

**FAITH UCC STAFF**

Lisa Allen

Office Coordinator  
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Pat Mundell

Congregational Life Coordinator  
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Beth Elshoff

Children's Education Coordinator  
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Donate to the  
Neighbors in Need  
Special Mission  
Offering October 2<sup>nd</sup>

Neighbors in Need (NIN) is a special mission offering of the United Church of Christ that supports ministries of justice and compassion in the United States. As you may recall, one-third of the offering supports 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 supporting a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects.

Please make checks payable to Faith United and in the memo add (NIN).

# VOICE OF FAITH



## Stewardship Season

“From Bread and Cup to Faith and Giving” makes the connection between our experience of God and our generosity as disciples.

**About the Theme:**

Receiving the bread and the cup - also known by names such as Lord's Supper, communion, holy communion, breaking of the bread, sacred meal, and simply “the table” is at the center of the Christian community.

At first, it may seem surprising to think about stewardship in connection with passages that focus on the bread and the cup. But such texts often imply themes central to the spiritual practice of generosity. Indeed, partaking of the bread and the cup should lead to faith and giving. At the table, God uses the loaf and the cup as visible signs of God's pure, unbounded love for us and for all.

When we partake of the bread and the chalice, we embrace God's unconditional love as the basis for our lives as individuals and communities, and we commit ourselves to live in God's ways of love for all. – *UCC stewardship giving resources.*

**Stewardship Sunday, October 16th**

We will be handing out our stewardship packets, so you have time to prayerfully consider the level of your financial support for our Faith community in the year ahead.

**Commitment Sunday, November 13th**

We look ahead with hope & make promises for how we as individuals will contribute to the health of the whole of the body of Christ in the year to come.

**Potluck Sunday, November 13th**

We will have a fellowship potluck meal after worship. Everyone is welcome at the table here at Faith United Church of Christ.



## PULPIT SUPPLY FOR OCTOBER

**Sunday, October 2 - Rev. Marcy Heil**

Lamentations 1:1-6; 3:19-26 and 2 Timothy 1:1-14

World Communion Sunday. We don't often read Lamentations. It's full of...well...complaining and suffering. It's depressing. Had God really forsaken the lot or was there hope? We must remember the tough times to embrace the good times. God's love spreads across humanity...through God's son Jesus Christ. Today, we remember our Savior as we partake of the body and blood of Jesus Christ with other Christians around the world.

**Sunday, October 9 - Rev. Barb Muhs**

Luke 17: 11 -19

Gratitude. In decorating for fall the word gratitude comes up on many store shelves. Signs, pumpkins, kitchen towels, and pillows all bear the word. As Christians, we are to be grateful in ALL things and the gratitude that we show is to be displayed at all times. Humbleness is one of the steps to being gracious. How do we then take steps into being people who live a life of gratitude?

**Sunday, October 16 - Rev. Marcy Heil**

Children's Sabbath - Jeremiah 31:27-34 & Isaiah 11:1-10

Stewardship Packets will be handed out

Every year, places of worship from every religious tradition join together in a common concern for the struggles children, youths, and families face. The Sabbath is our expression of shared commitment to listening deeply to the voices of children and youths. Are we listening? Can we, as God's children provide better lives for children today and tomorrow?

**Sunday, October 23 - Rev. Marcy Heil**

Joel 2:23-32 and Luke 18:9-14

We look this week at the parable of the tax collector and the Pharisee. We don't have much respect for either of these folks, frankly; Can either of them earn God's love? Can we earn God's love? Nope. But through God's grace and mercy, we receive love unconditionally. Our job is then to share it.

**Sunday, October 30 - Rev. Barb Muhs**

Toten-fest: In remembrance of members that passed recently.

Yes, Totenfest is a German word and a word that many of you are not familiar with. Translated it is, "Feast of the Dead". Totenfest is claimed to have started in 1816 with Emperor Frederick William III. In 1916 in many traditions, the name was changed to, "Memorial Sunday". Totenfest can be celebrated almost anytime throughout the church calendar but typically falls on the Sunday closest to All Saints Day (November 1). This year at Faith United we will celebrate Totenfest on October 30th. I realize that you had Memorial Sunday in May, during this time of transition we will move the date and try something new or at least, where it falls in the church year.

Scripture will be read, candles lighted, chimes rung, and flowers presented to a family member who has lost a loved one since the end of May. I am inviting the family to bring something to share that reflects the life of the person. This item will be placed on the altar during worship to remind all of us of a life well lived and blessed by God.

Since May Faith United has released into God's hands the following church members: Jim Burr, Richard Duggleby, and Barbara Woodstra. If you have names of other people that you would like to be shared on that day, please let the office know and we will share the individual's name during the service. I realize this is an old E and R tradition. Sometimes returning to our roots helps us understand where we are today while directing us into the future.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

# Eastern Association Annual Meeting

9/25/22, Faith UCC, Davenport

By Sue Johannsen



The Eastern Association of the Iowa Conference of the UCC's Annual Meeting began with the Rev. Jean Sullivan speaking on trauma and its effects. Jean studied ACEs, Advanced Children's Experiences and developed a model on trauma. Sullivan said that the pandemic caused trauma to many. Many died, in Iowa over 10,000 were lost and over a million in the US. Traditions were abandoned, churches closed and time-honored traditions stopped like funerals, marriages, and family gatherings.

The goal is to move forward with compassion. Every person has their own story. Physical scars are visible for some, but each of us is changed by our experience in the pandemic. Recovery from trauma is hindered by isolation. The goal is to reach for understanding so we can cope with today in a healthy way.

Sullivan closed with a question; how can we heal? Churches can recognize loss at All Saints Day, reflect at blue Christmas services, and consider the uncertainties that continue to exist. Churches might hold classes on prayer and meditation. Assemble members to discuss fear, challenges, grief, and regret.

On October 13 from 5-6 on Zoom, a program called Compassionate Choices will be offered to guide people to think about the end of life and finishing strong. Watch for it.

Interim Conference Minister Phil Hart: Phil started work with the Iowa Conference on August 1. The upcoming Annual Meeting for the Iowa Conference is October 8-11. Hard changes are ahead because of a \$500,000 deficit in the state's budget. He suggested we care for our neighbors by reaching out to nearby churches. He advocated for inviting other churches over for time together. Planning meals or events to include others would create bonds.

Iowa Conference Chairperson Matthew Schneider-Adams, Clarence, IA: It's been a tough year. Changes in personnel resulted in the Tri-Conference Minister stepping down in May and an Associate Conference Minister resigning. In the summer of 2021, all the office workers quit taking institutional knowledge with them. The full-time financial officer was replaced with a firm who works part time for the Tri-Conference. He asked for discernment & prayers.

## Joint Annual Meeting 2022

### October 9th-11th Get Ready for JAM!

Have you registered? [In-person registration](#) is open until September 30th and [online registration](#) is open until October 5th.

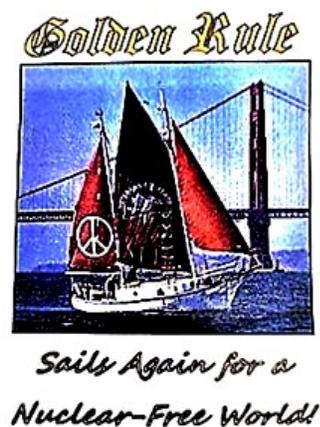


## The Golden Rule Voyage

Operated by Veterans for Peace is making a historic Great Loop voyage in protest of nuclear weapons.

The Ketch is due in Muscatine on the late afternoon of October 17 and will depart Muscatine on the morning of October 19.

The Veterans for Peace will present a short film about the historic GOLDEN RULE and its voyage on September 27 in Musser Public Library at 7 p.m. Please join us. – Tom Emerick



## Centering Prayer

On Wednesdays, at 4:15 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, come on over!



**VESTRY SUMMARY FROM SEPTEMBER 12TH**

**Reports:**

**Treasurer** – Rich Carroll's Budget, contributions are on target for the year, Expenses are fairly routine, Building and grounds is at 90% of budget.

**Deacons'** - Support worship volunteers, stewardship letter and budget discussion  
Met and will meet again Sept 20 at 5:00 p.m. at the church, to go over stewardship letter and budget.

**Elders'** – Employee annual reviews done except for Chris Lary, were done in May/June; Deb will meet with Chris and make sure all signatures are complete for employee manuals.

**Trustees'** - Dave. W. working to get multiple bids for downstairs air conditioning - Kelly and Custom air. Need to schedule a walk through, investigate roof leak.

**Unfinished Business**

- Dave purchased the front door lighting and back door area - will install.
- Sunday school room ceiling & by the white board repair/paint in progress
- Take all the old bulbs to Transfer Recycle station - in the Quad Cities
- Dave will get bids for dead trees in parking lot median nearest the street needed taken down, 5 trees total. Frantz's scout troop could help with 1 tree removal.
- Chris Lary request that Joy's father lives with them. & Rental agreement. Scott talked with Chris, told him this was acceptable. Will need to have the Lary's re-sign the rental agreement. Currently Chris is not sure if/when Joy's father will come to Iowa. Scott is to send rental agreement to Chris for signature.
- Outside windows need cleaned, bid for Clear Image was \$300.00.

**New Business**

Action Items:

- Form the Sign task force to investigate and propose a new permanent signage for front lawn of church!
  - (a) 3 At Large volunteers: Jeff Hanssen, Alice Ganzley, Jon Merritt
  - (b) 2 Vestry volunteers: Julie Kundel, Scott Warren
  - (c) 2 ONA volunteers: Ann Emerick, Tim Stelzner
- The first meeting is September 26th 5:30 pm on zoom.
- Need to schedule the Congregational meeting for Budget vote for 2023 year. Vestry decided on December 4, 2022.
- Need for a backup Nursery aid when Lauren is unable to attend, Claire and McKenna Schumaker will fill in.

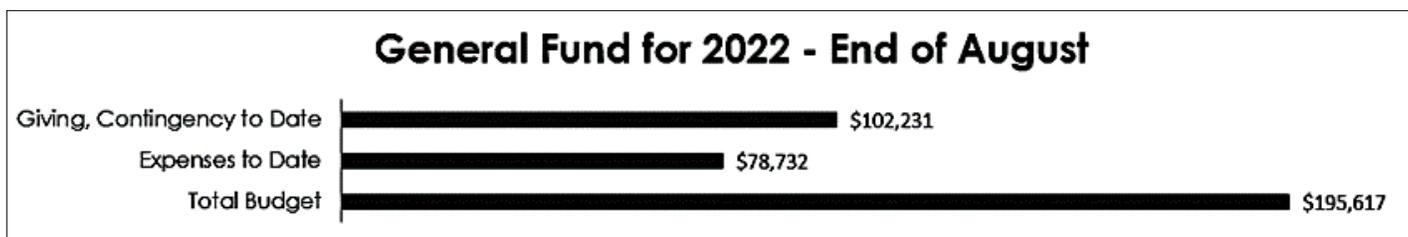
2. **Updates:**

- ONA update, Deb Hagy - Discover Muscatine article Wednesday 9/14/22.
- Search and Call/ Pulpit supply update: they met in Aug, one profile came through collective decision was to defer, have been in contact with all seminaries in US - many students are not looking to be a pastor at a church, they are looking at teaching or chaplaincy, even though it doesn't seem like it, we haven't been in this process for very long. Faith is still in good shape with pulpit supply, with a schedule through December. We still need to decide on need for Christmas Eve or Christmas morning service? Will ask the guest pastors their preferences and will then take a vote.
- Congregational Life Grant - Melissa and Mary have reviewed, will need one more person from congregation to review, Scott contacted Jan Collinson, she accepted this role.

3. **Quick Items:**

- October 2 - Communion servers needed: Tim Stelzner, Tom Emerick, & Mark Butterworth.
- Tom E - 2 Ukrainian families in town, 2-3 more coming in couple of weeks
- Would like to see a letter sent to recent confirmands to invite them to participate as full members of the church. Requested by Tom Emerick.

**The next meeting is on October 10, 2022, at 6:30 p.m. on zoom.**



CHURCH EVENTS IN OCTOBER

Harmony Guild



Harmony Guild members will be gathering Monday, October 3rd at 6:30 p.m. at the church for our quarterly business meeting and program. Co-hostesses are Linda Hardin and Sheryl Lindley. All women of the church and friends are welcome. Feel free to join us for an evening of fellowship.

Food Pantry for October

We will be collecting Peanut Butter and Jelly or Jam in plastic jars, not glass jars. If you see something on sale, we will welcome all items as well. Thank you for your contributions.

Friendship Circle

The meeting is on Thursday, October 6th at 10:00 a.m. at the Church. Co-hosts are Margie Kundel and Karren Sharar. Friendship Circle is for any woman who is a member or friend of the church. All are welcome to join.



Search and Call Committee

The Committee will meet October 17th at 7 p.m.

Open and Affirming Committee

Highlights from the ONA meeting on Sept. 1, 2022 are:  
 1. Deb Hagy wrote an article for Discover Muscatine about her life experiences. You can find the article here: <https://discovermuscatine.com/welcome/>. Thanks, Deb!  
 2. ONA submitted two grant requests to further our mission.  
 3. MCC will be contacted to see if there is a current group, like All Kinds of People.

**Whoever you are  
 Wherever you are on life's journey  
 You are welcome here!**



Sign Task Force

The Committee met for the first time on zoom, September 26th. Next meeting is October 17th at 6 p.m.

Christian Education News

No Class October 19th,  
 School Conferences

October Events

- 10/2 Sunday, World Communion Sunday,
- 10/2 Sunday, Special offering Neighbors in Need
- 10/2 Sunday, Crop Walk 2 p.m.
- 10/2 Sunday, Emmaus Café 11:30 a.m.
- 10/3 Monday, Harmony Guild 6:30 p.m.
- 10/4 Tuesday, Green Team at 4:30 p.m.
- 10/4 Tuesday, Faith Ringers 6:30 p.m.
- 10/6 Thursday, Friendship Circle 10:00 a.m.
- 10/6 Thursday, ONA meeting at 6:00 p.m.
- 10/9 Sunday, Youth Group meet at 5:30 p.m.
- 10/10 Monday, Vestry meeting to Finalize Budget Proposal
- 10/11 Tuesday, 11 am to 11 pm Appleby Crop Fundraiser
- 10/16 Sunday, Stewardship Packets handed out
- 10/17 Monday, Sign Task Force meet at 6 p.m.
- 10/17 Monday, Search and Call meeting 7 p.m.
- 10/19 Wednesday, no C.E., (School Conferences)
- 10/30 Sunday, Toten-fest
- 10/30 Sunday, Potluck after worship service.



Altar Committee

October & November:  
 Tammy Ales

Sunday Morning Adult Forum

Begins after church from about 11-12. We will meet every week that we can. This is the link, <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82566074056>

Wednesday Night Adult Forum

Starts at 5:45 p.m. each Wednesday. Zoom link <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87620173804>

## 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 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 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  
12 – Bob Holland  
13 – Nancy Wangberg  
18 – Keith Stych  
18 – Doug Trueg  
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

## 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 all of their caregivers. Margaret Heerd, Kelly Ingstad, Keith & Nancy Stych, Sandra Roth, Myung Sharar, Phil Carver, Chad Morgan, Audrey Beckey, Chuck Warren, Melanie Kraklow, Linda Hardin, Frank Kelly, April & Alex Barnhart, Lane Clausen, and Lisa Kundel.

## Sincere Condolences

- Our fellow church member Barbara Jean Woodstra passed away on August 31, 2022. Please keep her daughters Pam and Cindi and her son Brad and their families in your prayers. A Celebration of Life will be held at a later date. Memorials may be directed to Faith United Church or Trinity Muscatine Friends in Barbara's name. Cards of condolences may be sent to: Cindi Kautz & family, 205 Cherry St., Muscatine IA 52761. Pam Ritchhart & family, Radenwisch 63, 22457, Hamburg, Germany. Brad Woodstra & family, 4713 Coventry Rd. E., Minnetonka, MN. 55345.
- Condolences to Lanette Morgan, her sister Arlene Kuehl from Clear Lake, South Dakota, passed away peacefully in her sleep. Please keep Lanette and her family in your prayers. Cards can be sent to Mike & Lanette Morgan, 3301 Anastasia Pl., Muscatine IA 52761.
- Condolences to Ben Hanssen, his sister-in-law Carol Hanssen from Monticello Iowa passed away, please keep Ben and his family in your prayers. Cards can be sent to Ben & Sharon Hanssen, 2202 Oak Valley Drive, Muscatine IA 52761.
- Sympathy to Pat Mundell, Nancy Wangberg, and Barb Muhs and their families; their uncle Robert 'Bob' Burr, 90, of Muscatine, passed away on Friday, Sept. 16, 2022. Please keep them in your prayers along with their families. Memorials may be made to Honor Flight of the Quad Cities or Unity Point Hospice.

## FAITH UNITED COMMUNITY

## Faith UCC Green Team

The Green Team meeting was on September 8, 4:30 on zoom.

The next meeting will be on Oct 4<sup>th</sup>. On zoom, link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83914762873>



On October 15 at MCC, 10-noon, there will be an event to highlight energy efficiency called, "The Climate is Changing. Can We?" This event is co-sponsored by the League of Women Voters, Clean Air Muscatine, and MCC. If you are interested in learning more about energy efficiency, solar vehicles, saving money with reduced energy usage, or learning about what is going on in Muscatine, this event is for you.

Meeting Notes: Attending: Tim Stelzner and Sue Johannsen

1. Van Meter – A new light for the meditation garden is needed. Tim Stelzner will contact Frantz Silberger for Ben's number. Ben works for Van Meter and has been in our church. We need a new fixture/light that will either be on a timer or a light sensor, so the light goes on at dusk and off at dawn.
2. LEDs in the lower level have been purchased and will be installed in the future.
3. Investigating solar options is next. New opportunities for grants for renewables will become available. We'll explore what might work for Faith UCC.
4. City Council will hear a staff report on Muscatine's participation in the SolSmart program on Oct. 15th. Please consider contacting your city council representatives and ask for their support of SolSmart. To learn more about SolSmart go to <https://solsmart.org>

## MCSA Sponsors – Sign up for future Sundays [HERE](#).

October 2 - Mike & Lanette Morgan in memory of Lanette's sister Arlene Kuehl

October 2 - Larry, Marcy & Lane Clausen in honor of Faith's staff and volunteers

October 9 - William & Kay Creasey in memory of William C. Creasey

October 16 - Sandra Roth in memory of Bernard Roth

October 23 - Paul & Pat Burnette in memory of Nathan

October 23 - Darlene Vance in memory of Harvey Vance

October 30 - Barbara Woodstra in celebration of Great Granddaughter Lina

October 30 - Richard Carroll, Jan & family in honor of Collin's Birthday



## Thank You Notes from Members and Friends

- Dear Faith United Friends, thank you to each and every one for making our "80-60-80" celebration a memorable experience. Your cards, flowers, greetings, and presence brought us lots of smiles, laughter, and even tears of Joy. We have been blessed. - *John and Judi Jones*.
- Thank you to everyone for your cards of sympathy, prayers, and well wishes in the passing of my dear sister Arlene Kuehl, it is a comfort to have the Faith church community's support at this time. – *Lanette Morgan and family*.
- Dear Faith Friends, thank you so much for replacing the deck on the back of the church house. It is such a blessing to us. We have really enjoyed using it while it's warm out. Thanks again. Blessings, *The Lary Family*.
- Thank you to our Faith family for the kind words, cards, memorial gifts and thoughts and prayers you gave us following our mother's passing. We also appreciate the continued connection you provided these last few years when Mom wasn't able to attend services. Her church was always the center of her long and well lived life. A special note of gratitude to Barbara Muhs who visited giving comfort and prayers. Sincerely, *the family of Barbara Woodstra*.
- I really appreciate every card I received for my birthday. I enjoyed them all. Muscatine is still my home. - *Myung Sharar*

## FAITH UNITED OUTREACH GIVING COMMUNITY

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

VOF OCTOBER



## Undie Sunday Collection

Thanks to all who donated sweats, undies, and socks to our collection for Undy Sunday. We received monetary donations of \$261.00 with the addition of \$52.20 from matching Grant Funds from Faith United that gave \$1 for every \$5 dollars donated. Items collected: 6 pairs of sweatpants, 10 pairs of girl socks, 81 undies for girls, 22 pairs of boy socks, and 37 undies for boys. This will be a huge help to those in the preschool and elementary schools in Muscatine. Thank you to all who contributed to our very useful project. - Outreach Committee



## Crop Walk - Outreach Mission

The annual Walk will be on Sunday, October 2nd, at 2 p.m., this is a 2.5-mile walk. We hope to have a group from Faith walk together on this day. All monetary check donations are to be written out to CROP. Pat Mundell will then take the checks directly to the Crop program.

At the time of this newsletter publishing, we have raised \$750.00 with an additional matching Faith United grant for \$1 for every \$5 dollars collected, the amount equaling another \$150.00. There is still time to donate more this Sunday, October 2nd!



## Applebee's Together We Care fundraiser

Tuesday, October 11th from 11:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. people order from the special Together, We Care menu the CROP Walk will receive 50% of the food bill! We will have a container for any extra donations as well. Please see Pat Mundell for questions.

**Note from the Crop Walk coordinator:** We also need some people to greet those coming in to eat. This would be between 11 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. and 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. One or two people at a time would be fine. All you need to do is greet those coming in, tell them about the special and a bit about what the money will go for—Church World Service programs all over the world and 25% of the money collected here will be returned to Muscatine for the Muscatine Community Food Pantry and Bag of Blessings. If you will help out with this, let me know (563-264-5372 or [judyb@machlink.com](mailto:judyb@machlink.com)). Judy Brotherton, Muscatine CROP Walk.

## 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