



**Focus on Faith**  
**Faith First Community Church**  
 1630 W. 38th Street, Davenport, Iowa 52806  
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 Email: office@faithfirst2024.org



April 2024  
 Vol. 24-4 Issued Monthly  
 Rev. Heidi Hulme  
 Office Hours: 9 am to 12 pm M-TH



**Great Lakes & West Central  
 Regional Youth Event**

**July 17-20, 2024**  
**AUGUSTANA COLLEGE**  
**Rock Island, IL**

**\$200 through March 31**  
**\$250 April 1—May 15**

*Scholarships available!*

*\$67 from Eastern Iowa Association*  
*\$67 from Faith First Community Church*

*See Pastor Heidi for more details*



**THE JOY THAT JESUS OFFERS** his disciples is his own joy, which flows from his intimate communion with the One who sent him. It is a joy that does not separate happy days from sad days, successful moments from moments of failure, experiences of honor from experiences of dishonor, passion from resurrection.

This joy is a divine gift that does not leave us during times of illness, poverty, oppression or persecution. It is present even when the world laughs or tortures, robs or maims, fights or kills. It is truly ecstatic, always moving us away from the house of fear into the house of love, and always proclaiming that death no longer has the final say, though its noise remains loud and its devastation visible. The joy of Jesus lifts up life to be celebrated.

—Henri J.M. Nouwen, Lifesigns



**ready for s'more?**

SAVE THE DATES FOR CAMP 2024!

- May 31-June 2 - Family Camp
- June 10-15 - Junior Camp 1
- June 17-22 - Chi Rho 1
- June 22-23 - Grand Camp 1
- June 24-29 - CYF 1
- July 1-3 - Beginner Camp
- July 1-6 - Mission Trip to Chicago
- July 8-13 - Junior Camp 2
- July 8-13 - Chi Rho 2
- July 13-14 - Grand Camp 2
- July 15-20 - CYF 2
- July 22-27 - ADAM Camp
- July 22-27 - Adventure Camp
- July 29-Aug 3 - Junior Camp 3



**Summer Camp Registration  
 Opened March 1st!**

For more information on the camps and to register, go to the Christian Conference Center Summer Camp Sessions web page:

<http://www.newtoncc.org/scsessions>

Early bird registration ends on May 6. Camps are an additional \$25 after 5/6.

Camp scholarships are available. See Pastor Heidi for more details.





## Elder Training

There will be an **ELDER** training class at 12pm Sunday, April 28th.

A light lunch will be served.

Meet in Fellowship Hall.

Thank you to Sharon Perreault for directing the Youth in their performance on Palm Sunday.



The song—"Watch the Lamb" - words and music by Ray Boltz — and the skit was very touching.

# FROM THE PASTOR

*"But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint." — Isaiah 40:31*

It is finally "official", according to the State of Iowa. After what seemed way too long, we have finally been informed that our Articles of Incorporation for Faith First Community Church are in place. I am very excited, because now we can move forward. Actually, most of me is just plain relieved.

When we have to wait for something longer than we anticipated, things can be..... a little tense. We tend to get more and more irritated as time moves on, with the situation, as well as with one another.

I wonder if that is what is happening with our world today. Jesus left this earth, promising one day to return and make everything right again. But we are still waiting. And some of us are getting a little impatient. So much, in fact, that they are leaving the faith altogether.

But we are promised that Jesus will, in fact, one day return. We do not know when, but he will. While we wait, we are to continue to move forward, caring for those who cannot care for themselves, and work toward God's Realm here on earth. And as you already know, that can take way longer than we would like,

and it can take more strength and patience that we think we have.

But through Christ, and in God, ALL THINGS are possible. Even patience while we wait for Jesus to return.

Just because we are now seen as an "official" church, it doesn't mean everything is how we want it to be. We still have so much to do. And like I said before, we need everyone's help.

Some of the things will be more fun than others, but everything needs to be done. For now, we are working on prioritizing what needs done first.

Martha is building our new website, as well as working to get our emails set up. She is also working to get the bank accounts opened. (Until we let you know otherwise, please continue to write your checks to Faith UCC.)

Glenn will begin the tedious job of going through the First Christian history files (along with a volunteer or three!), and we need someone to do the same for Faith UCC. If you are willing to help with either of these things, please let me know as soon as possible, and we can figure out how we are going to get started on that!

I am very grateful to everyone for their patience, and for their excitement! There is much to do, and yet, we have come so far! Thank you!



**IT'S THAT TIME, AGAIN!** The attic shop ladies want to remind everyone to bring items to the church for them to sort and price. Our annual holiday bazaar is November 2nd.

In the Gospels, Jesus raised several people from death. Which of the following was not one of them?

- A. Tabitha
- B. Jairus's daughter
- C. A widow's son
- D. Lazarus

Answer: (See Acts 9, Mark 5, Luke 7, John 11.)





# Board Notes

## Board Meeting—March 10

1. Jim and Doug are working to get the leak fixed at the parsonage.
2. Doug Cox, Jim Perreault, and Jim Sullivan will share the property duties.
3. SIG Property maintenance will do some lawn cleanup.
4. The Scouts will help clean out FCC storage unit.
5. It was decided to do a dessert bar for the 60/185th anniversary celebration on April 21 after church.
6. Trivia Night fundraising event will be held on Saturday, April 27th.

## Hope at the Brick House

We are scheduled to serve Thursday, April 11, 2024.

### Share-A-Meal

We are scheduled to serve Tuesday, April 30, 2024.



Women's Group will meet at the home of Becky Christy. We continue crafting the candy bar wrappers for sale at the Bazaar. April 4, 2024 at 6:45 p.m.

## Newsletter articles due the 3rd Sunday of the month.

May Newsletter article deadline is Apr. 21.

May Newsletter will be mailed by Apr. 30.

### Treasurer's Report February 2024

PLEDGE ACCOUNT	MO.PLEDGE	FEB	GIVEN YTD
General Fund	\$ 7,058.00	\$ 6,057.97	\$ 12,499.51
Non-Pledge Gen Fund	\$ -	\$ 675.00	\$ 1,065.00
OCWM	\$ 165.00	\$ 190.00	\$ 380.00
DCM	\$ 410.00	\$ 410.00	\$ 1,220.00
Maintenance Reserve	\$ 380.00	\$ 795.00	\$ 1,558.75
<b>Total Giving</b>	<b>\$ 8,013.00</b>	<b>\$ 8,127.97</b>	<b>\$ 16,723.26</b>
GENERAL FUND	MO BUDGET		TOTAL YTD
Pledged & NP Giving	\$ 7,058.00	\$ 6,288.96	\$ 13,120.50
Misc Gen Fund Giving	\$ -	\$ 460.57	\$ 1,324.73
Transfers In	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,571.34
<b>Total Gen Fund Inc</b>	<b>\$ 7,058.00</b>	<b>\$ 6,749.53</b>	<b>\$ 17,016.57</b>
Pastor Expense	\$ 7,261.00	\$ 6,288.96	\$ 11,908.76
Employee Expense	\$ 1,335.00	\$ 1,140.17	\$ 2,224.14
Church Ministry Exp	\$ 447.00	\$ 300.15	\$ 367.13
Office Expense	\$ 599.00	\$ 426.85	\$ 1,014.76
Property Expense	\$ 2,057.00	\$ 2,072.78	\$ 4,740.71
<b>Total Gen Fun Exp</b>	<b>\$ 11,699.00</b>	<b>\$10,228.91</b>	<b>\$ 20,255.50</b>
<b>Net General Fund</b>	<b>\$ (4,641.00)</b>	<b>\$ (3,479.38)</b>	<b>\$ (3,238.93)</b>

Submitted by Martha Watters



- 3 Cody Perreault
- 6 Lyndy Holdt
- 8 Peyton Ozmon
- 12 Delores Fitzgerald
- 15 Bob Cobb
- 18 Joy Marvin
- 18 Ethan Wymore
- 19 Kirsten Gebhardt
- 19 Jill Pepper
- 28 Chad Daily
- 30 Cassandra Disney

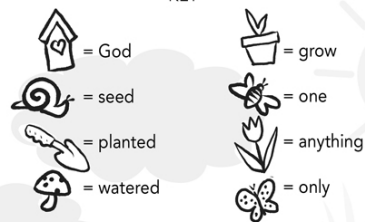


## PLANT, WATER, GROW

Building a faith community takes work. How did the church in Corinth come to be?

Directions: Use the code to fill in the words and complete a teaching of the apostle Paul.

### KEY



I \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_, Apollos \_\_\_\_\_ it,  
 but \_\_\_\_\_ has been making it \_\_\_\_\_.  
 So neither the \_\_\_\_\_ who plants nor the  
 \_\_\_\_\_ who waters is \_\_\_\_\_,  
 but \_\_\_\_\_, who makes things \_\_\_\_\_.

1 Corinthians 3:6-7, NIV

Answer: planted, seed, watered, God, grow, one, anything, only, God, God, grow





## Resurrection Stories

*"I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die." — John 11: 25-26, NRSVUE*

**THE EASTER SEASON** is a time of celebrating all the ways in which resurrection is possible in our lives. We can be in need of rising out of the depth of imprisonment, addiction, poverty, illness, and oppression — not just physically and literally, but also spiritually.

What keeps us locked up inside? What holds us back from the joy of life? What binds us, keeping us from the fullness of who God created us to be?

Join us for powerful testimonies of courage, kindness, strength, and overcoming — Resurrection Stories — from those who have found “resurrection” in their lives. It might just inspire you to unlock your own rising up!

### Our Faith First Family

Don Walton  
 Jim Perreault  
 Brianna DeGraff  
 Sid and Ardella Boots  
 Sheryl Mortimore  
 Pam Edmond  
 Blake Padavich  
 Linda Cox  
 Dan Lawler  
 Deb Lobdell  
 Jeff McWilliams  
 Rev. Barb Koenig  
 Karen Risler

### Our Homebound

Millie Allison  
 Darlene Carlin  
 Paul Dammeier  
 Connie Disney  
 Ella Frahm  
 Nancy Giles  
 Dennis Jacobson  
 Jan Johnson  
 Hazel Jones  
 Virginia Lemons  
 Hazel McBride  
 Harriet Meye

### Our Family and Friends

Bob Cox and family	Alberto
Terry Showens	Fran Frutiger
Judy Cummings	Harrison Schmitt
Gregory Minnich	Melissa Haynes
	Taryn Menning



### Our World

The Balkans—Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Kosovo, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia, Slovenia



## Notes of THANKS

We received letters of thanks from the following:

- Jenny Colvin, River Bend Food Bank: she noted with our help they can provide supplies to their 400+ partner pantries.
- Nancy Friedrichsen, EICC West Davenport Center Student Store wrote that the funds will purchase diapers, hygiene items and food for the student store.
- Sr. Mary Ann Vogel, Humility of Mary, said that they appreciate our support of their ministries and for all our wonderful work.
- Terry Hendershott, Friendly House, wrote “your generous gift will help support our programs and services.”
- Linda Wolf, Chistian Conference Center, said that our contribution will be put to good use as they continue to serve God by serving others throughout the Camp Season.
- Scott Schneider, also from EICC West Davenport Center, wrote “ Your gifts of diapers, personal items, book, school supplies, gift cards, and our monetary donations help to keep the success center well-stocked with essential supplies and food items to help take the edge off of the student’s daily needs.”

# April 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<b>1</b>  Troop 828 Meeting 6:30-8 p.m.	<b>2</b> Merit Badge 6 to 8 p.m.	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> Women's Group 6:45 p.m. Becky Christy	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> 
<b>7</b> 9:00 a.m. Faith Formation 10:30 a.m. Worship	<b>8</b> Troop 828 Meeting 6:30-8 p.m.	<b>9</b> Merit Badge 6 to 8 p.m.	<b>10</b> 	<b>11</b> Hope at the Brick House 3:30 p.m.	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> Bob Cobb 90th Birthday Open House 1-3pm
<b>14</b> 9:00 a.m. Faith Formation 10:30 a.m. Worship Noon Board Meeting Newsletter Articles Due	<b>15</b> Troop 828 Meeting 6:30-8 p.m.	<b>16</b> Merit Badge 6 to 8 p.m.	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> Baskets 5:30 p.m.	<b>19</b> 	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b> 9:00 a.m. Faith Formation 10:30 a.m. Worship 11:30 a.m. 60/185 Celebration Dessert Bar	<b>22</b>  Troop 828 Meeting 6:30-8 p.m.	<b>23</b> Merit Badge 6 to 8 p.m.	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> Troop Committee Mtg 6:30-8:30pm	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> Trivia Night Doors open 6pm Start 6:45pm
<b>28</b> 9:00 a.m. Faith Formation 10:30 a.m. Worship Noon Elder Training	<b>29</b> Troop 828 Meeting 6:30-8 p.m.	<b>30</b> Share-A-Meal 5:15 p.m. Merit Badge 6 to 8 p.m.				