

Faith First Community Church

1630 W. 38th Street, Davenport, Iowa 52806

563-391-5726

Email: office@faithfirst2024.org

Established January 1, 2024

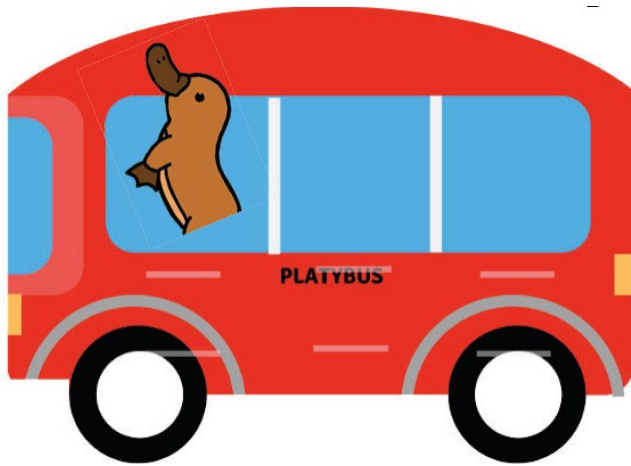
August 2025

Vol. 2-8 Issued Monthly

Rev. Heidi Hulme

Office Hours: 9 am to 12 pm M-TH

Focus on Faith



COME JOIN US ON THE PLATYBUS!!

WE ALL BELONG!

FAITH FIRST COMMUNITY CHURCH

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

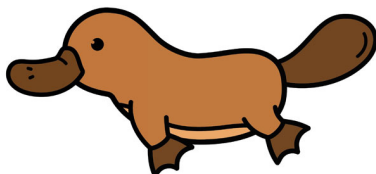
August 16, 2025 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Lunch and snacks will be served. The children will participate in the worship on August 17, 2025 at 10:00 a.m.

The kids will put together Toothbrushing kits for their Mission Project that will be given to CHC Dental. The kits will have washcloths, travel size toothpaste, toothbrushes, basic combs, floss and elastic hair ties. We have purchased the supplies for the kits and are accepting monetary donations for any of the items.

Crafts will be enjoyed by all as well as music and inside and outside games!

Volunteers are needed! Please sign up. Contact Jill Pepper or Pastor Heidi for more information.



COMMUNITY CHURCH CELEBRATION

AUGUST 17, 2025 10:00 AM

We are having a community celebration of our merged churches. The VBS kids will participate in the worship service. After the service, we will serve a light lunch—hot dogs, chips and ice cream. There will be a Bouncy House with other indoor and outdoor games.

We hope to see you all there! Invite your friends!

WHY CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY IS KEY

Jesus' followers aren't meant to pursue faith by themselves. In fact, that's impossible! A family and the body signify plural members. It is among brothers and sisters in Christ that we:

- experience our Savior's presence, living and incarnate;
- unite in worship, confess our sins, hear the gospel and receive Communion;
- accept church discipline through the gentle guidance of others;
- learn — through other people's examples and experiences — what it means to live a life of discipleship;
- and lovingly serve together as Jesus' hands and feet.



FROM THE PASTOR

"Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, Glory to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen." ~ Ephesians 3: 20-21

As I grew up in the United Church of Christ, I attended General Synod a couple of times. Now having attended General Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), the two gathering are alike in some ways, and vastly different in others.

I went, assuming I would know a few of the people, but was amazed to find that I knew many people. Some of them I had met through the UCC! It was great catching up with people I hadn't seen in years, as well as meeting new friends, that I look forward to catching up with in the future.

For the Christian Church (DOC), it is truly an assembly of the church—any pastor with standing in the DOC has a vote, and at this Assembly, every church has 2 voting delegates. (More if your have larger churches—but I still am unsure of what that "larger church" means.) We will circle around to this.

In the UCC, voting delegates are chosen by the Conferences, limiting the number of people who can vote, and meaning not every pastor, nor every church, has representation. In the Tri-Conference, there were 22 Iowa, 11 Nebraska, and 7 South Dakota delegates!

The other big difference, is that in the DOC, the resolutions are handed out before to every church, so that the delegates and pastors have time to go through them and understand them. In the UCC, the delegates are split up, each taking only one resolution, then once at General Synod, they meet and deliberate over the resolution. Then they take any recommended revisions to the person/group who wrote it, make the changes, and then it is taken to the wider body, where the voting members can vote on it. (Confusing, right?)

I do not have all of the background yet from General Synod, but understand there were some very heated discussions. I expected all of the resolutions that were presented prior to General Assembly to pass, which they did. Then we were given 3 "Emergency Resolutions" on Monday evening to be voted for on Tuesday.

An emergency resolution is one that was not able to meet the 180 prior to presentation deadline. I have no background on when these were written, and was unable to read them before they were presented. These three caused a little more passion than the rest, but in the end, all passed.

Now, my job (and Jim and Sharon's jobs) are to bring these back to you and help you understand them. One of the things I

haven't been very good at in my ministry is helping you have a connection to our wider church, so that is something I am going to work on, starting now!

I have been trying to figure out how to share all of the "business" that happened with the resolutions without overwhelming you, because even I got overwhelmed! I am going to do a BRIEF summery, and if you are interested in hearing more, or if this Pondering is confusing to you, please reach out to me, (or Jim or Sharon) and we can help clarify.

Resolutions #1—Ratify Actions of the General Board (restructure General Board numbers and length of terms) PASS

#2—Commitment to Thursdays in Black Campaign: A Global Movement for A World Without Gender-Based Violence (By World Council of Churches to wear black on Thursdays to remind us that we need to take action against gender based violence when we witness it.) PASS

#3— Resolution Concerning Disability Justice and Inclusion in all Ministries within the Christian Church (Call for all churches to create ministries, missions, and buildings that are accessible to all, regardless of disability.) PASS

#4—Opposing Project 2025 and Other Policies That are Inconsistent With Our Commitment to Justice, Mercy, and Compassion for our Neighbor (encourages members and churches to read to understand Project 2025, figure out where it is inconsistent with Christian values (especially DOC values) get involved with justice organizations, putting their faith into action.) PASS

#5— Proposed Resolution to Commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the Disciples Peace Fellowship and inviting Regions and Congregations to Recommit to the Work of Peace and Justice (Exactly what it says!) PASS

#6—Amendments to The Design (DOC Constitution) (Further explanation in the September newsletter) PASS

#7—Calling the Church to Affirm the Sovereignty and Self-Determination of Our Canadian Siblings (In response to hateful rhetoric toward Canada and its citizens—that we recognize they are their own country with their own ideals.) PASS

#8—Changes to Special Rules of Procedure for the General Assembly (To align with changes of The Design) PASS

Emergency #1—An Emergency Resolution Concerning the Moral Crisis of Federal Budget Priorities in the 2025 Reconciliation Bill (Passionate discussion) PASS

#2—Responding to the US Federal Government's Attack on Immigrants, Migrants, and Refugees (VERY passionate discussion—additional time added) PASS

#3—Affirmation of the World Council of Churches call to "End Apartheid, Occupation, and Impunity in Palestine and Israel," and of solidarity with Palestinian people as we struggle for an end to genocide (VERY PASSIONATE discussion—from both sides.) PASS

As I said before, I do not have the emergency resolutions, and were not able to read through them prior to voting, but I honestly believe that at the core of all of these resolutions is this: to remind us that our call is to love our neighbor, fight for justice, and remember that God is our center. So simple on paper, and so difficult to live out. Please take a moment to pray for all of these things, and all of us, as we continue to live into God's call.

Always Peace, Pastor Heidi

BIBLE QUIZ

For years, King David showed special kindness to the son of King Saul's son Jonathan, because David and Jonathan had been dear friends. Which of the following statements is not accurate?



- A. The name of King Saul's grandson was Mephibosheth.
- B. He was lame in both feet.
- C. His feet had been injured when he was 5.
- D. He was injured while playing with his brothers.

Answer: (See 2 Samuel 4:4; 9:1-7; 21:7.)

Hope at the Brick House

We are serving at the August 1st HTBH block party.

Share-A-Meal

We are scheduled to serve on August 29th.



Women's Group
Will meet at the church on
August 7th
6:45 p.m.

Newsletter articles due the 3rd Sunday of the month.
September Newsletter article deadline is Aug 17.
September Newsletter will be mailed by Aug 28.

Treasurer's Report June 2025			
	0	MO.PLEDGE	JUNE
General Fund	\$ 6,950.00	\$ 5,925.00	\$41,532.00
Non-Pledge Gen Fund	\$ -	\$ 365.00	\$ 2,002.00
OCWM	\$ 151.00	\$ 168.00	\$ 983.00
DOCM	\$ 45.00	\$ 12.00	\$ 86.00
Maintenance Reserve	\$ 360.00	\$ 344.00	\$ 1,959.00
Total Giving	\$ 7,506.00	\$ 6,814.00	\$46,562.00
GENERAL FUND	MO BUDGET		TOTAL YTD
Pledged & NP Giving	\$ 6,950.00	\$ 6,290.00	\$43,534.00
Misc Gen Fund Giving	\$ -	\$ 128.88	\$ 1,643.51
Transfers In	\$ -	\$14,000.00	\$26,092.13
Total Gen Fund Inc	\$ 6,950.00	\$20,418.88	\$71,269.64
Pastor Expense	\$ 7,549.00	\$ 7,789.83	\$43,638.83
Employee Expense	\$ 1,373.00	\$ 1,241.39	\$ 7,751.22
Church Ministry Exp	\$ 383.00	\$ 499.37	\$ 1,679.64
Office Expense	\$ 520.00	\$ 424.42	\$ 3,022.20
Property Expense	\$ 2,169.00	\$ 2,245.30	\$14,846.85
Total Gen Fun Exp	\$ 11,994.00	\$12,200.31	\$70,938.74
Net General Fund	\$ (5,044.00)	\$ 8,218.57	\$ 330.90
Submitted by Martha Watters			



- 13 Jay Watters
- 19 Lee Jensen
- 20 Linda Jensen
- 21 Chris Lobdell
- 22 Sophie Pepper
- 29 Myrene Burton



SATURDAY, SEPT 6TH
6 p.m.

Doors Open at 5:30
More Details

Flyers available on the
table in
Fellowship Hall
Invite your friends!



Board Notes

Board Meeting— July 20

1. Water came into the electrical box in the basement. Doug will contact an electrician to check it out.
2. Plans are underway to paint the nursery and music room.
3. General Fund—the operating account is at a positive balance through June 30th. \$330.90.
4. HTBH block party will be August 1. We are responsible for the food and serving.
5. Music Bingo scheduled for September 6th.
6. Next meeting - Aug 24 at 11:30 a.m.

CHRISTIAN SYMBOL

ALTAR — This central furnishing in a Christian worship space is usually large, with a solid front that may be decorated with symbols or words. The flat surface, often covered with a cloth, is where the Communion elements are prepared and placed, reminding us of Jesus' sacrifice as the Lamb of God. In some churches, the altar looks more like a table, with open leg-work. We remember that Jesus invites us into fellowship with God now and to the heavenly banquet for eternity. We place offerings on the altar to symbolize our sacrificial response to God's redeeming love.



Our Faith First Family

Deb Lobdell
Glenn Perreault
Don Walton
Pastor Heidi
Sid and Ardella Boots
Karen Risler
Rev. Barb Koenig

Our Homebound

Paul Dammeier
Nancy Giles
Dennis Jacobsen
Jan Johnson
Hazel Jones
Virginia Lemons
Harriet Meyers
Colleen Skinner
Harry Stroupe

Our Family and Friends

Doyle Koenig
Susan
Randy Campbell
JR Showens
Dillon Poole
Cal Klopp
Lorie House
Nancy
Fran Frutiger
Allison Byers
Kylie
Cindy Norman
Taunia Waters
Deb
Nilofar Basti
Heather
Bruce
Terry Showens
Judy Cummings



Our World

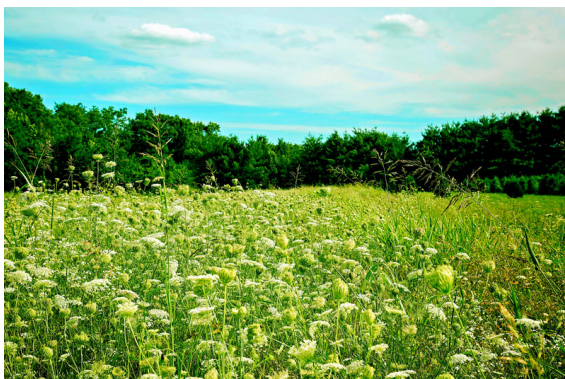
Republic of Congo, Gabon, Sao Tome and Principe, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Equatorial Guinea, Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Liberia, Sierra Leone

SUMMER

'Tis summer, I know by the blue of the sky;
By the trees' deeper green, as beneath them I lie;
And more than all these, by the lovely wild rose
That now in the woodland its pink blossom shows.
I feel the warm west wind fan gently my cheek
As I sit on the grass, far too happy to speak;
And then in the twilight I see the faint spark
Of the fire-fly, flitting alone in the dark.

Oh! Long happy days, when 'tis full of delight
To roam in the meadows from morning till night!
Oh! Summer, sweet summer! glide slowly away,
For I love in your warmth and your fragrance to stay.

—H.P. Nichols



We will bless the backpacks and school supplies during worship on Sunday, August 3rd. Thanks to everyone who has donated to this mission project!



Faith Formation Classes will begin in September.

*

Music Bingo Fundraiser Saturday, September 6th.

*

Worship Time will change to 10:30 a.m. on
Sunday, September 7th!

*

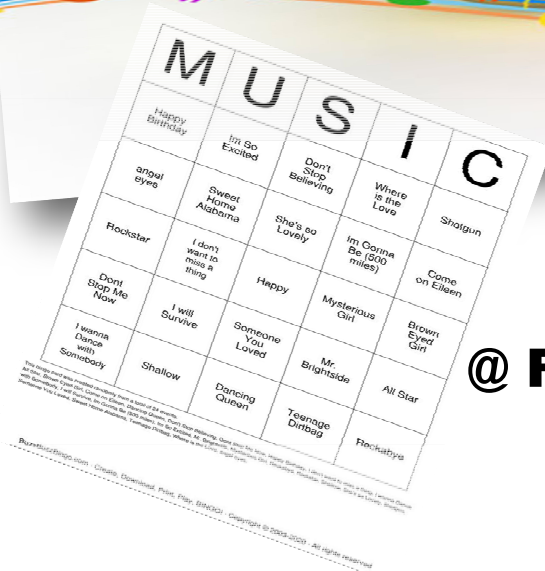
Annual Attic Shop is set for Saturday, Nov. 1st.

Cookie Walk and Bake Sale will be Saturday, Dec. 6th.

Note: There will be a few crafts at each of these events.

FAITH FIRST COMMUNITY CHURCH

MUSIC



September 6th 6:00

\$10 per person

**@ Faith First Community Church
1630 W 38th St Davenport**

CLASSICS

COUNTRY

Kids

Rock&Pop

Proceeds Benefit:

Argrow's House: Provides free services for women survivors of domestic and sexual violence.
Argrowshouse.org

Christian Care: Homeless shelter, support, resources and meal site for Iowa & Illinois Quad Cities

Baked Goods and Drinks for Sale — Raffles & 50/50
Contact glenn@faithfirst2024.org for more information

August 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Hope at the Brick House Block Party 4:15 p.m.	2
3 Summer Hours Worship Service 10:00 a.m. Bless Backpacks	4 Troop 828 Meeting 6:30-8 p.m.	5 Merit Badge 6 to 8 p.m.	6 	7 Women's Group @ Faith First 6:45 p.m.	8	9 Fellowship Hall Reserved
10 Worship Service 10:00 a.m. Board Meeting 11:30 a.m.	11 Troop 828 Meeting 6:30-8 p.m.	12 Merit Badge 6 to 8 p.m.	13	14 	15	16 Vacation Bible School 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
17 Community Church Celebration and Worship Service 10:00 a.m. <i>Newsletter Articles Due</i> <i>Senior Citizens Day</i>	18 Troop 828 Meeting 6:30-8 p.m.	19 Merit Badge 6 to 8 p.m.	20	21 Basket Class 5:30 p.m.	22	23 
24 Worship Service 10:00 a.m. Board Meeting 11:30 a.m.	25 Troop 828 Meeting 6:30-8 p.m.	26 Merit Badge 6 to 8 p.m.	27  <i>Mail Newsletter</i>	28	29 Share-A-Meal 5:15 p.m.	30
31 Worship Service 10:00 a.m.						