

Faith First Community Church

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Established January 1, 2024

February 2026

Vol. 3-2 Issued Monthly

Rev. Heidi Hulme

Office Hours: 9 am to 12 pm M-TH

Focus on Faith



I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. — Isaiah 43:19

Lent is a time of reflection, and there's nothing like a pilgrimage to conjure that up. Making intentional journeys has been a ritual of humankind across time and traditions. Inspired by passages in the Judeo-Christian scriptures that talk about the journeys, roads, and pathways of life, we will make our way together through this season. The popular and poignant movie, *The Way*, about a father's pilgrimage in honor of his late son on the famed Camino de Santiago in France and Spain, accompanies us as our modern-day inspiration to live the life we've been given to the fullest.

- "The Way Back" - Ash Wednesday
- "The Wandering Way" - Lent One
- "The High Way" - Lent Two
- "The Way Around" - Lent Three
- "The Way Home" - Lent Four
- "The Free Way" - Lent Five
- "The Other Way" - Lent Six/Palm Sunday
- "The Loving Way" - Good Friday
- "Make Your Way" - Easter Sunday

A worship series by Marcia McFee, Worship Design Studio. A six-week fully-scripted non-lectionary based worship series.

STOP, LOOK AND LISTEN

Why should we observe Lent?

We observe Lent because it causes us to STOP. Lent says, "Stop and rest awhile." Lent says, "Stop doing wrong."

We observe Lent because it tells us to LOOK.

Look inward for an honest self-examination. Look upward to see the cross of Christ with healing and love. Look forward to the hope of the Resurrection.

FORTY
Days
OF LENT

We observe Lent because it tells us to LISTEN. Listen to the words of Christ. Listen to the voice of God. Listen to the winds of the Spirit of God.

Stop, look and listen. These three words are important for our safety in travel, but they may also be helpful for our journey through the days of Lent.



Help us adorn the sanctuary on Easter morning by signing up for an Easter Lily in memory of a loved one.

Cost is \$13 each

ASH WEDNESDAY IS FEBRUARY 18, 2026, and it marks the beginning of the 40 days of Lent. Lent hints of spring, a time when the earth begins to awaken from a winter's nap, and new growth bursts forth all about us.

More personally, it is an opportunity to enter into a springtime for our spirit. For centuries Christians have used the 40 days of Lent to seek spiritual growth. Sincere repentance, a changing of heart, casting off old sinful practices and seeking to commune with our creator help us go in the right direction. Spending serious time in silence and prayer focuses our attention. Reading spiritual literature, becoming more knowledgeable about the New Testament, meeting in small groups with other Christians to share personal stories of faith

can all be immensely stimulating. Joining with others to serve the helpless and hopeless can strengthen our spiritual life.

Lent is a time to let God do "spring cleaning" within us. It's our opportunity to allow God to help us toss out the "stuff" that hinders us and then freshen up the "new creature" we are meant to be as followers of Christ.



February 18, 2026

Soup Supper 6:00 p.m. Worship 7:00 p.m.



"You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. 15 Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. 16 In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven." ~ Matthew 5:14-16

My family and I take several supplements daily, one of them being Vitamin D.

Vitamin D is important to the body. If the body is short on Vit. D, the body cannot absorb calcium properly to help maintain strong bones. It also supports immune health, and keeps muscles and brain cells working.

You can get Vit. D through some foods, mainly fish, like salmon, mackerel, and sardine (YUCK!). But the best way to get Vit. D is by sunlight. Unfortunately, given our geographic location on this planet, we can go several days, to even weeks without seeing the sun.

The sun affects us in more ways than just Vitamin D. If you are like me, the lack of sun can seriously affect your mood. Depression can set in, tempers can get dangerously short. I can't imagine living close to the Arctic Circle where they can get no sun at all in a 24 hour period for 60-67 days every winter!

When the sun shines, I love facing it, with my eyes closed, of course! I love just standing in place, soaking up the warm rays, and allowing it to spread through my body. (Our dog, Nala, loves doing that as well!) The light warms my body, both inside and out.

The light of God shines on us in the same way—bright and warm. And it is always present, even when we can't see or feel it.

Our world is gray and cloudy—mostly metaphorically speaking. It is filled with violence, hate, oppression, and fear. We can go days and days without seeing anything bright.

As people of God, we are called to be the light of the world. When the gray seems to blanket us like a thick fog, we are to shine. So, when you don't feel or see the light of God, BE that light. DO something kind—smile at someone who isn't expecting it. Look people in the eye when you talk to them. Call or text a friend or family member and tell them you are thinking of them. Send a card, or letter, or email. It doesn't take much to be the light in the world. Just keep it simple!

Oh! And just in case I haven't told you lately, or you need to hear it again—YOU ARE ENOUGH! GOD LOVES YOU, AND SO DO I!

Always Peace,
Pastor Heidi

BIBLE QUIZ

The New Testament uses several Greek words to describe love. Which of the following best represents the selfless, sacrificial love that God shows to humanity?

- A. Eros
- B. Phileo
- C. Agape
- D. Storge



Answer: (See John 3:16 and 1 Corinthians 13)

Hope at the Brick House

We are scheduled to serve at
3:30 p.m. February 12th.

Share-A-Meal

We are not scheduled to serve in
February.



**Women's Group
Will Meet on
February 5, 2026 6:45 p.m.
At Janelle Hoker's home**

Newsletter articles due the 3rd Sunday of the month.

March Newsletter article deadline is Feb. 15.

March Newsletter will be mailed by Feb. 26.

Treasurer's Report December 2025			
PLEDGE ACCOUNT	MO.PLEDGE	DECEMBER	GIVEN YTD
General Fund	\$ 6,950.00	\$ 6,477.00	\$ 78,029.00
Non-Pledge Gen Fund	\$ -	\$ 1,115.00	\$ 4,903.51
OCWM	\$ 151.00	\$ 143.00	\$ 1,773.00
DOCM	\$ 45.00	\$ 12.00	\$ 521.00
Maintenance Reserve	\$ 360.00	\$ 351.00	\$ 3,882.00
Total Giving	\$ 7,506.00	\$ 8,098.00	\$ 89,108.51
GENERAL FUND	MO BUDGET	TOTAL YTD	
Pledged & NP Giving	\$ 6,950.00	\$ 7,592.00	\$ 82,932.51
Misc Gen Fund Giving	\$ -	\$ 684.18	\$ 3,563.46
Transfers In	\$ -	\$ 9,951.75	\$ 58,043.88
Total Gen Fund Inc	\$ 6,950.00	\$ 18,227.93	\$ 144,539.85
Pastor Expense	\$ 7,549.00	\$ 9,660.59	\$ 89,487.30
Employee Expense	\$ 1,373.00	\$ 1,388.85	\$ 15,723.48
Church Ministry Exp	\$ 383.00	\$ 327.03	\$ 4,021.66
Office Expense	\$ 520.00	\$ 578.59	\$ 5,908.90
Property Expense	\$ 2,169.00	\$ 3,946.94	\$ 29,398.51
Total Gen Fun Exp	\$ 11,994.00	\$ 15,902.00	\$ 144,539.85
Net General Fund	\$ (5,044.00)	\$ 2,325.93	\$ -

Submitted by Martha Watters

A TASTE OF LOVING-KINDNESS

A Sunday school teacher once asked her class, "What do you think the Bible means when it speaks of loving-kindness?"

A young boy thought for a moment and replied, "Well, if I were hungry and someone gave me a piece of bread with butter on it, that would be kindness. But if they added a spoonful of jam, that would be loving-kindness."

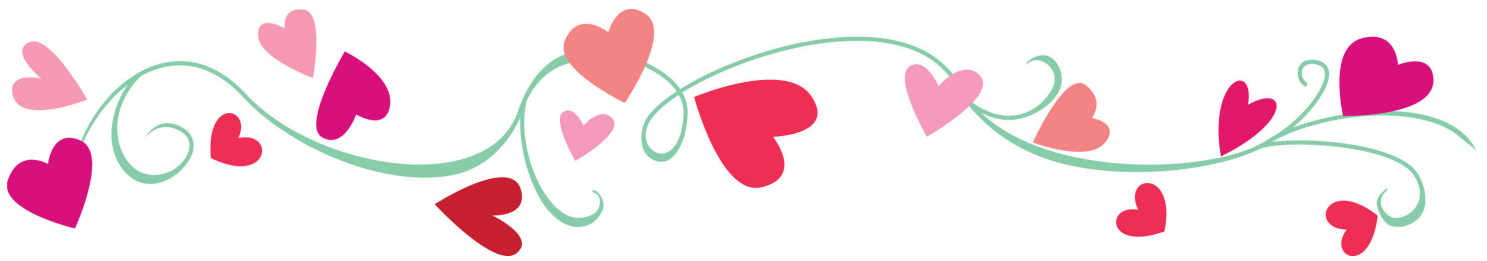


Board Notes

1. Having MidAmerican install security light on the pole behind the church/parsonage. Did install motion lights on the parsonage deck.
2. Hope at the Brick House has offered their stair lift for use at the church. Only have to pay to install it. Checking on that cost.
3. Security committee decided to postpone homeland security grant application. May pursue in 2027 if still available.
4. Next meeting date is February 8, 2026.



- 1 Mackenzie Walck
- 11 Gloria Kuehl
- 15 Natalie Walck
Glenn Perreault
- 19 Linda Cox
- 22 Lee Ann Maas
- 28 CJ van der Merwe



CHRISTIAN SYMBOL

CORNERSTONE — The cornerstone is a symbol for Christ. It has Old Testament roots in Isaiah’s prophecy (Isaiah 28:16). In the New Testament, Christ is called the cornerstone in Ephesians 2:20. The IHC and XP on the stone’s sides are abbreviations for “Jesus” and “Christ” in Greek.



Our Faith First Family

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

Our Homebound

Paul Dammeier
Nancy Giles
Dennis Jacobsen
Hazel Jones
Harriet Meye
Colleen Skinner
Harry Stroupe

Our Family and Friends

Albert Perreault
Fran Frutiger
JR Showens
Dillon Poole
Lorie House
Alison Byers
Garrett Paxton
Kylie
Tania Waters
Terry Showens
Judy Cummings

Our World

Algeria, Libya, Morocco, Western Sahara, Tunisia, Andorra, Italy, Malta, Portugal, San Marino, Spain, Vatican City, Austria, Lichtenstein, Switzerland, France, Germany, Monaco



Dear Faith First Family,

Thank you so very, very, very much for the most generous gift of money along with the beautiful card!



Yesterday, one day after Christmas, I was making my traditional party mix when smoke started rolling out of the oven, and the smoke alarm went off! I tried the self cleaning cycle and, again, it over heated. It’s getting rather old, so I opted to replace it.

The new oven will always be the “Faith First” oven to me. I don’t know how much I’ll spend, but your gift will surely cover most of it!

I’m off to shop. Sure glad it didn’t happen when I was baking the Christmas ham! Uff da!

With Love, Susan

I want to express my sincere thanks and heartfelt gratitude to everyone for all your prayers, visits, cards, love and support given to Jan and I during her illness and at her death. A special thank you to Pastor Heidi for the wonderful service. Thank you to all for attending her celebration of life, for the memorials given, and to the women who helped with the luncheon. It is with a grateful heart that I ask God to bless each of you.

With Love, Carol Ginneberge

February 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Faith Formation 9:00 a.m. Worship Service 10:30 a.m.	2  Groundhog DAY Troop 828 Meeting 6:30-8 p.m.	3 Merit Badge 6 to 8 p.m.	4	5 Women's Group 6:45 p.m. At Janelle Hoker's home	6 	7
8 Faith Formation 9:00 a.m. Worship Service 10:30 a.m. Board Meeting 12:00 p.m. Scout Sunday	9 Troop 828 Meeting 6:30-8 p.m.	10 Merit Badge 6 to 8 p.m.	11 	12 Hope at the Brick House 3:30 p.m.	13	14 
15 Faith Formation 9:00 a.m. Worship Service 10:30 a.m. <i>Newsletter Articles Due</i>	16 Troop 828 Meeting 6:30-8 p.m.	17 Merit Badge 6 to 8 p.m.	18  Ash Wednesday 6 p.m. Soup 7 p.m. Worship	19 Basket Class 5:30 p.m.	20	21
22 Faith Formation 9:00 a.m. Worship Service 10:30 a.m.	23 Troop 828 Meeting 6:30-8 p.m.	24 Merit Badge 6 to 8 p.m. Pinewood Derby	25 6 p.m. Soup 7 p.m. Worship	26 <i>Mail Newsletter</i>	27 	28