

OSAGE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
630 STATE STREET
OSAGE, IA 50461

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



NOVEMBER

THE SPIRE
NOVEMBER 2025

OSAGE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
630 STATE STREET
OSAGE, IA 50461

EMAIL: OSAGEUCC630@GMAIL.COM

FACEBOOK: OSAGE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

CHURCH #: (641) 732-3452

WEBITE: WWW.OSAGEUCC.ORG

REV. DIXIE LAUBE

DIXIE.LAUBE@GMAIL.COM

PASTOR'S CELL: 641-300-7245

OFFICE HOURS TUESDAY-FRIDAY 9 AM—1 PM

TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY AT EDEN

THURSDAY & FRIDAY AT OSAGE

(SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

THE SPIRE

OSAGE UCC MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

by **Rev. Dixie Laube**

November is here. I'm certain many of us are not 100% ready for the holiday season, yet like in hide-n-seek, "ready or not, here I come." The holiday's sneak up on us and sometimes we are left questioning how in the world did the year fly by so quickly. I think one of those answers is we keep ourselves quite busy, which means the time just flies. A wise person once said, "Time flies when you're having fun." So, there you have it...we are having fun. Though I wonder if the fun we are having is what God intended for us?

One could answer that question with, absolutely God is okay with what we are doing. He knows what we are going to do before we do it. Yet, I still wonder about that, because we have free will and with that free will comes choices. We have the ability to do what God maybe thought we were going to do, or we have the ability to do something completely out of character. And that leads to this question: Where is it that you spend most of your time? Is it in a gymnasium watching your children or grandchildren? Is it outside in the miracle of God's creation and exploring? Is it in your homes with your family? Or is it with other people, having deeply rooted conversations about how your life is or their life is? Are we healing each other and listening to one another? Are we asking the deeper questions about ourselves, our churches and the communities we serve?

Time is a precious commodity God gave us. We are only here for a short period and how we spend that time is literally on our shoulders. For me, when I sit and wait for appointments, I tend to feel like I am wasting time. I try hard to be on time because again it's precious and for me to be late, means I am wasting someone else's time. Do you see the spiral here? So, again, I ask, what are we doing with our time?

As Thanksgiving approaches, and Advent looms upon us (specifically November 30), where will we be spending our time? I can tell you this: I will be spending much of my time planning and preparing our worships so they are meaningful and God-centered. I will be in conversations with members about their holiday traditions. I will be celebrating with my family some point. I will be holding all of you in my prayers as we come into the holiday season because none of us know what God has in store for us. However, what I want you all to remember is how thankful we all are and how this year has been amazing with prayers being answered, and how our little bit of faith has been growing within each of us.

Thank you to everyone who supports the ministries at Osage United Church of Christ and Eden Presbyterian Church because without you, well, let's not think about that because what we have is amazing! I do pray you all have a wonderful, safe, and blessed Thanksgiving with your families and friends.

Blessings,
Pastor Dixie

Osage UCC Leadership

August 28, 2025

Minutes

Dennis called the meeting to order in the church parlor at 4:00 p.m. Members in attendance were: Chair Dennis Fannin, Vice President Pat Weis, Recorder Jon Masmar, Bruce Weis, Pastor Dixie Laube, and Pam Masmar. Absent: Treasurer Tony Murphy. Pastor Dixie opened the meeting with prayer.

Minutes from the July 24, 2025 meeting were read. Motion to accept the minutes was made by Bruce; seconded by Pat. Motion carried unanimously.

The July 2025 financial report was discussed. Motion to accept the report was made by Bruce; seconded by Pam. Motion carried unanimously.

In Old Business, Bruce, Pat, and Susie Brandau will secure the necessary supplies for the pantries for Osage UCC and Eden Presbyterian.

Great news on the ceiling tiles! Five samples were taken for asbestos testing, and NO ASBESTOS was found. One more estimate will be sought for the removal of the 2500 sq ft of ceiling tiles. Ceiling tile committee will include: Dennis, Bruce, and Dean Olson, property superintendent.

Radon levels in the lower two levels of the basement are above the EPA recommended action level for indoor radon. A couple of more tests in different lower level rooms will be taken for confirmation of the previous tests. No action was taken at this time. Waiting to see what the ceiling costs might be.

No action was taken on new folding chairs in the fellowship hall.

In New Business, John Cramer (janitor) and Jannie Montalvo (secretary) will have job reviews with Pastor Dixie. Pam will assist as needed.

The Salary Committee, consisting of Dennis and Pat, will meet with Eden's group of 5 to discuss employee salaries for the upcoming year. The budget will be set, with Lou Ann Murphy's guidance.

In Dennis' moderator thoughts, he shared a handout that displayed the differences between declining and thriving churches that he had found in his records. Discussion ensued.

In Pastor Dixie's Report, a donation from the church will be made to the Police Department and Fire Department, \$150 to each entity. Also discussed was serving communion from the aisles in the near future. Thoughts to ponder.

Next meeting is October 2, 2025 at 4:00 in the parlor.

Meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m. with the reciting of the Lord's Prayer.

Jon Masmar, Recorder

PRAYER REQUESTS



Family of Ryan Heman
Family of Cole Counsel
Dean Olson--celebrating his news
Sue Kuper
Family of Gary Stumberg
Scott Matheson (Dell's Son in MI)
Marge Stonecypher
Mary Ellen
Family of Sandra Gruman
Diane Steffen
Leland, MS--Pastor Ann Kelly
Jo Beyer Family
Woody Tabor (Waverly Peace UCC)
Celebration of community at Buerkley's for the Fall Festival

Nancy Duncan
Eunice Pringnitz
Annette
Myron Kuper
Elizabeth Uthe
Denny Pellymounter
Mike & Carol Wertz
Barb Foster
Adrianne McKinley
Family of Emma Harrison
Chasity Huber
Cathy
Celebration of Howard's scans



COFFEE WITH PASTOR DIXIE

EVERYONE IS WELCOME

NOVEMBER 13 AT 9:00 AM
KOUNTRY KUPBOARD



Our Income to Expenses (Jan. - September):



Total Income: \$ 97,640.29

Total Expenses: \$ 131,755.60

Net Income: - \$ 34,115.31



November 8--Bruce Weis
November 12 --Kris Williamson
November 24--Alex Skuster



November 18--Stan & Shirley Whitman
November 19--Dean & Diane Steffen

Community Thanksgiving Worship

The Ministerial Alliance invites everyone
to our **Thanksgiving** worship.

When: Sunday, November 23, 2025

Where: Osage United Methodist Church

Time: 7:00 pm

Refreshments served after worship



Take time to THANK someone!

We have many wonderful people at Osage United Church of Christ that help in many different ways. Please cut this out of the newsletter and send it back to the office. These will be listed on our screen on Sunday morning, November 23, 2025, during worship.

These are due in the office on or before Sunday, November 16.

Person or Group to thank:

Thank you for _____

NOVEMBER SCRIPTURES

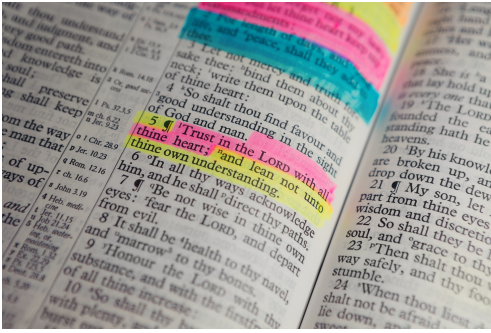
November 2: Habakkuk 1:1-4, 2:1-4; Psalm 119:137-144; 2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12; **Luke 19:1-10 ALL SAINTS SUNDAY**

November 9: Haggai 1:15b-2:9; Psalm 145:1-5, 17-21; **2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17;** Luke 20:27-38

November 16: **Isaiah 65:17-25;** Isaiah 12; 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13; Luke 21:5-19

November 23: Jeremiah 23:1-6; Luke 1:68-79; **Colossians 1:11-20;** Luke 22:33-43

November 30: First Sunday of Advent: Isaiah 2:1-5; Psalm 122; Romans 13:11-14; **Matthew 3:1-12**



Osage United Church of Christ and Eden Presbyterian Church teamed up to build little food pantries. Little Food Pantries started in 2016. Here is their story:



"Jessica McClard launched the grassroots mini pantry movement in May 2016 in Fayetteville, AR, when she planted the Little Free Pantry Pilot, a wooden box on a post containing food, personal care, and paper items accessible to everyone all the time, no questions asked. She hoped her spin on the Little Free Library® concept would pique local awareness of food insecurity while creating a space for neighbors to help meet neighborhood food needs.

A little over a month later, CrystalRock Cathedral Women's Ministries planted Blessing Box in Ardmore, OK. By August 2016, the movement was global. Throughout the US and internationally, the grassroots mini pantry movement continues growing and moving."

This one is up and ready by the church.

The second one is at 402 Chickasaw Street, Rudd, IA.

We pray everyone will be able to utilize it in the ways it is meant for.

We do ask that you provide items that won't explode or rot.

And if you want to financially help, reach out to Pastor Dixie at dixie.laube@gmail.com.

THANKSGIVING WORDSEARCH

A R W P D T N O V E M B E R L L A F G J
 K Z L U X G N I V I G S K N A H T R E H
 M E M O R I E S S F B O N F I R E E N A
 K T R F A B U N D A N C E T G O G F E R
 X R T A Y O J Y A F E I P H E S T L R V
 T A R M V D O S E J N E L O D V O E O E
 R D G I Q J R A E K A V Y L U W G C S S
 K I A L R I S O B C R N E I T Z E T I T
 A T T Y W T M N E L M U A D I R T I T G
 F I H P F I E T O U P W T A T E H O Y H
 V O E I I Q D T T I Q A D Y A G E N V N
 H N R L R S M U A D T V R C R Y R E K B
 A F I G E N A Y I R Z A F A G R N W L E
 P R N R P D X R H G B Z I Y D Q E E H I
 P I G I L N G J W I C E V C Q E S T Y Z
 I E T M A Z G R T T E K L X E S S C F N
 N N A S C M O D A Z A T Q E I R M G A G
 E D K N E W E U I C W M Q N C Y P E M K
 S S H A R I N G L T E M G Q X W G P H O
 S Q L A F W L E A V E S E O K G Y D A X

WORD LIST

ABUNDANCE
 APPRECIATION
 AUTUMN
 BLESSINGS
 BONFIRE
 CELEBRATE
 FALL
 FAMILY

FEAST
 FIREPLACE
 FRIENDS
 GATHERING
 GENEROSITY
 GRACE
 GRATITUDE
 HAPPINESS

HARVEST
 HOLIDAY
 LEAVES
 MEMORIES
 NOVEMBER
 PARADE
 PEACE

PILGRIMS
 REFLECTION
 SHARING
 THANKSGIVING
 TOGETHERNESS
 TRADITION
 TURKEY

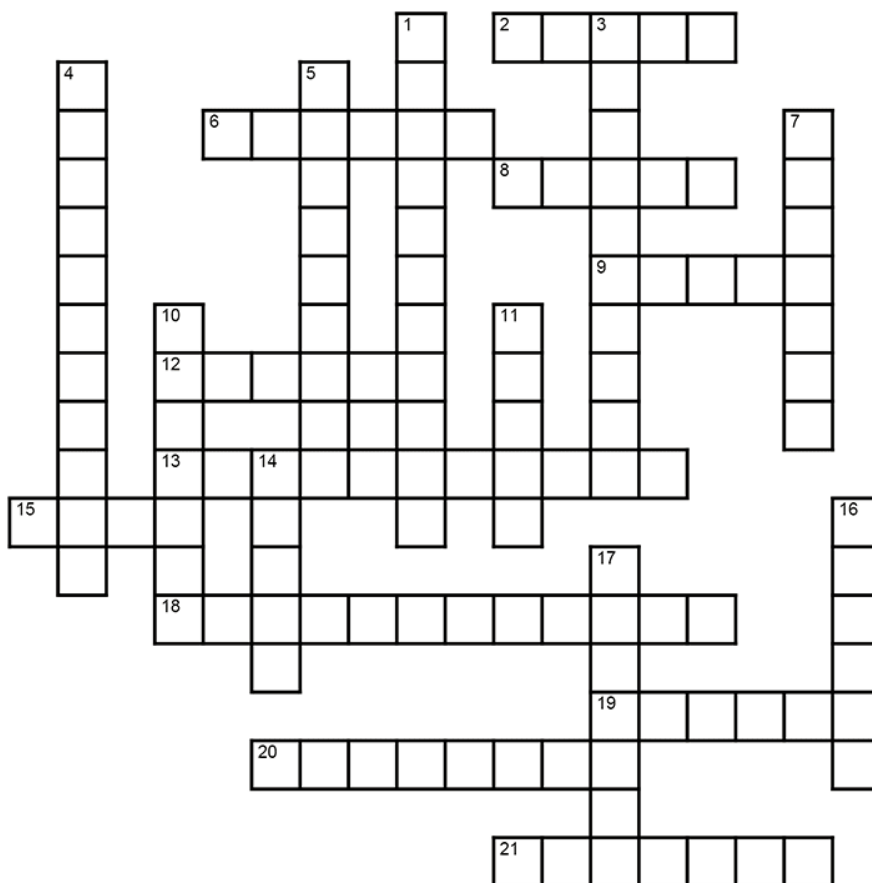
Homemade
 GIFTS MADE EASY

Name: _____ Date: _____



ACROSS

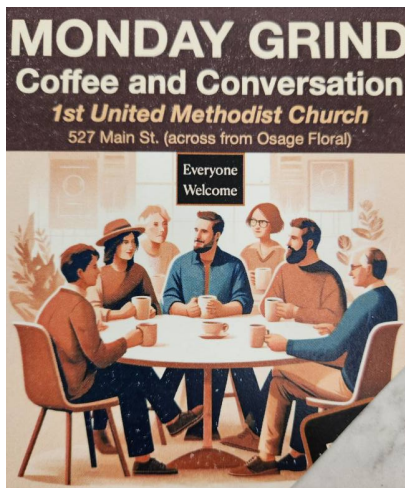
2. Sponsors of the annual Thanksgiving parade in New York City.
6. Traditional Thanksgiving bird.
8. Breezy or gusty.
9. Drink made from apples.
12. Another word for the fall season.
13. November 11th.
15. Tool for gathering leaves.
18. Celebrated on the fourth Thursday of November.
19. What the turkey said.
20. Eleventh month of the year.
21. Often used to make pie in November.



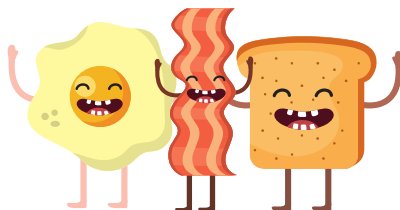
DOWN

1. First Tuesday after the first Monday in November.
3. Horn of abundance.
4. The day after Thanksgiving.
5. Thankfulness.
7. Along with Sagittarius, zodiac sign for November.
10. The gathering of crops.
11. Deposit of small ice crystals.
14. Along with citrine, birthstone for the month of November.
16. They're raked in autumn.
17. Mayflower passenger.

Autumn	Gratitude	Rake
Black Friday	Harvest	Scorpio
Cider	Leaves	Thanksgiving
Cornucopia	Macy's	Topaz
Election Day	November	Turkey
Frost	Pilgrim	Veterans Day
Gobble	Pumpkin	Windy



HOURS 8-10 AM



The **St. Ansgar United Methodist** have Community Breakfast every Thursday morning from 7:15 a - 9:00 a. It is a free will donation and each week has a specific menu. Here is the schedule for October's breakfasts:

November 6: Biscuits & Gravy
 November 13: Pancakes
 November 20: Waffles
 November 27 is Thanksgiving...no breakfast

ADVENT



Let Pastor Dixie know if you would like to do special music during one of the Sundays in Advent.

Pastor Dixie is also seeking out readers for the Lighting of the Advent Candles, which starts November 30.

2026 PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE TRIP



CANTON, NORTH CAROLINA
FEBRUARY 1-7, 2026



The Presbytery of North Central Iowa invites you to join us for our 2026 disaster relief trip to Canton, North Carolina. On September 27th, 2024, Hurricane Helene devastated the mountains of Western North Carolina and other areas in the American southeast, forever changing families, lives, landscapes, and memories. The town of Canton sustained massive damage and flooding, including a portion of the downtown that had just finished rebuilding after flooding from Tropical Storm Fred in 2021. Work will primarily be in the Canton and Asheville area.

Lodging will be at Canton Presbyterian Church, arriving Sunday, February 1 and departing Saturday, February 7. The church can accommodate up to 20 volunteers. There are mattresses and cots in numerous rooms in their education wing. Volunteers have the use of a fully equipped kitchen, dining room, and lounge area. For those that do not wish to stay in a dormitory-style setting, there are several hotels in Canton, within 10 minutes of the church. Registration materials will be available in late November.

If you have questions or need more information, contact Angie Jewett at angiejewett872@gmail.com or 515-370-0839.



NOVEMBER



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					END OF DAYLIGHT SAVINGS SATURDAY NIGHT. FALL BACK AN HOUR 	1 FALL BACK NE Association Meeting/Ecclesiastical Council for Scott Meyer in Clarksville
2 All Saints/ Communion Osage 9:00 Eden 10:30	3 Presbyterian Cohort Cedar Falls	4 Election Day	5 Grief Group 2:00	6	7	8
9 Osage 9:00 Eden 10:30	10	11 UCC Deacon zoom meeting 11 am	12 UCC Clergy Cluster 10 am in Alden Session Meeting 4:30	13 Coffee with Pastor Dixie at Kountry Kupboard Session in LeRoy 7	14 Osage HS All High Musical 7 pm	15 Osage HS All High Musical 7 pm
16 Osage 9:00 Eden 10:30 All High Musical 2:00 Installation Waterloo First Pres. Rev. Dyck	17	18 Leadership 4:00 pm	19 Rowan Council Mtg. 10 Grief Group 2:00	20 Ministerial Alliance 9:30 am	21	22
23 Decorate after Worship Osage 9:00 Eden 10:30 Thanksgiving worship 7:00 pm, Osage UMC	24	25	26 NE Association UCC COM zoom 2:30 pm	 27 Offices Closed Thanksgiving	28 Offices Closed	29
30 Osage 9:00 Eden 10:30 First Sunday of Advent						