

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



THE SPIRE
2026

OSAGE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
630 STATE STREET
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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

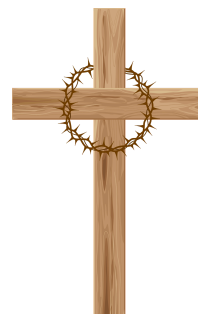
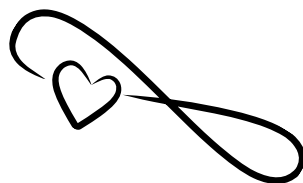
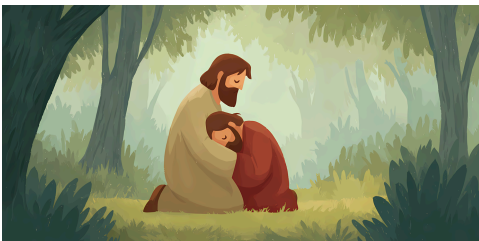
by Rev. Dixie Laube

Holy Week started with Palm Sunday on March 29. On Holy Monday, Jesus walked into the temple, threw out the money changers, and walked out. On Holy Tuesday, Jesus taught the Pharisees and Sadducees about marriage in the resurrection, taxes, and how their hearts are hardened. On Holy Wednesday, or Spy Wednesday, Judas conspired with the authorities to betray Jesus. On Holy Thursday, we remember the last supper and Jesus washing the disciples' feet. On Good Friday, we remember Jesus being tried, beaten, betrayed, and crucified. On Holy Saturday, we wait...and we wait...and we wait...until the Sun Rise (Son Rise).

Easter Sunday the day we have been waiting for and walking toward these past six weeks. A day we rejoice and shout, "Christ is Risen! Christ is Risen Indeed!" The day gives us a sense of completion. Because the sermons over these past six weeks have spoken about how we are following Jesus--half way or all the way--to the cross. I brought in the idea about how we skirt around the topic of claiming Jesus as Lord or being able to look Jesus in the eyes. These type of pin-pointed questions cause us to squirm because we are not always honest with our own confession of sin and opening of our hearts.

AND yet, we celebrate and praise the resurrection because we know we are loved and saved. So, yes, we look to Easter every year. We worship with our whole hearts. However, as soon as Easter is over, we turn back to the way things were before: ordinary worship, judging, gossiping, arguing, blaming others, and all the sins we are comfortable with. We tend to forget about Jesus' commandment: love one another. Even when we "might" forget to face Jesus, know that we are LOVED to our core. We must remember Jesus had his last supper with sinners and deserters, and He loved them.

It would be a wonderful gift to the world around us to live out Jesus' commandment: love one another. I encourage us to live out this Easter Season with this gift of love and always remember: God Loves You Always.



Be encouraged,

Pastor Dixie Laube

**Leadership Board Minutes
Osage UCC
February 19, 2026**

Chair Dennis Fannin called the February 19 meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Members in attendance were: Dennis Fannin, Vice President Pat Weis, Treasurer Tony Murphy, Recorder Jon Masmar, Bruce Weis, Pastor Dixie, and Pam Masmar. Pastor Dixie opened the meeting with a prayer.

Pat moved to approve the January 22, 2026 minutes; seconded by Tony. Unanimously passed. Pat moved to approve December and January financial statements; seconded by Bruce. Unanimously passed. Year end 2025 Annual Report to the Congregation will be ready for the March 8 Annual Meeting.

In Old Business, the Covenant for Conversation will be included on the Annual Meeting agenda.

Dennis Fannin will be leaving the Leadership Board following the Annual Meeting. Those staying on the board are Tony Murphy, Pat and Bruce Weis, Jon and Pam Masmar. Jill and Dean Olson have volunteered their service for the upcoming year(s) and have agreed to have their names included on the 2026 voting ballot.

Motion made by Bruce to update the signature card at Home Trust Bank with the following signatories: Tony, Jon, Ann, and Dean; seconded by Pam. Unanimously passed.

Bruce moved to amend the 2026 proposed budget; seconded by Pat. Unanimously carried.

In New Business, Easter worship will be held April 5 at 9:30 a.m. Easter breakfast will be offered following the service in the Fellowship Hall.

In Moderator Thoughts, alarm system is functioning. Pastor Dixie will make application for future Sabbatical financial help. Dennis offered a suggestion for the Covenant for Conversation for the Annual Meeting.

In Pastor Dixie's report, joint Ash Wednesday service at Our Savior's Lutheran Church was attended by approximately 120 people. It was a very meaningful service. Maundy Thursday service will be held at Osage UCC on April 2, at 7:00 p.m.

Sending postcard invitations to the community for our Easter worship and brunch was discussed. Pastor Dixie will research costs before any decision is made.

Following the Lord's Prayer by all, the meeting was adjourned at 5:46 p.m.

Jon Masmar, Recorder

**BOARD MINUTES
SPECIAL MEETING
MARCH 1, 2026**

A special meeting was called by Dennis Fannin on Sunday, March 1, 2026 following worship service.

Two items were discussed and resolved.

1. Easter worship and brunch post cards will not be sent due to the high cost of card design production and postage. We will try to advertise via Facebook and/or local newspaper ad.
2. Board decided to donate \$100 to the Osage PTO Carnival event.

Jon Masmar, Recorder

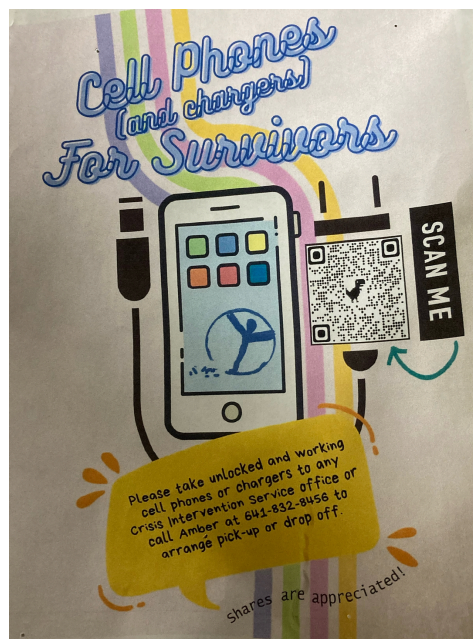


PRAYER REQUESTS



The Keith Ham Family
The Denny Pellymouter Family
Sue Kuper
Ben Weis
Arlan Laube
Peggy Mark
Mary
Chasity (Joanne's niece)
The Hanson Family
Stan & Shirley Witham
Our military
The Dora Biederman Family
David Harrison

The Ruth Ginder Family
Jim and Beth Olson
Joannie
The Wallace Family
Elizabeth Uthe
Nancy Duncan
Colleen Dodge
Ed & Judy Kramme



Holy Week Schedule:

**Maundy Thursday, April 2, Worship 7:00 pm
at Osage UCC**

**Good Friday, April 3, Worship 7:00 pm
at Our Savior's Lutheran**

**Easter Sunday, April 5, Worship 8:00 am
at Eden Presbyterian Church**

AND

**9:30 am at Osage UCC with
Easter Brunch following worship**



COFFEE WITH PASTOR DIXIE

EVERYONE IS WELCOME

APRIL 9 AT 9:00 AM KOUNTRY
KUPBOARD

APRIL 23 AT 9:00 AM THE SEMINARY



MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR
APRIL 19 FROM 2:00 PM-4:00 PM!

COME AND BE IN FELLOWSHIP OVER
BOARD GAMES; DOMINOES; CARD
GAMES AND SO MUCH MORE!

WE WILL BE IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL
AT OSAGE UCC.

BRING A SNACK TO SHARE.
COFFEE, HOT COCOA, WATER
PROVIDED



April 18—Ann Lewis
April 24—Dean Graves
April 29—Lou Ann Murphy
April 29—Frank Jacobs

Financial position for January 2026:

Total Income: \$ 7,666.12

Total Expenses: \$ 10,178.46

Net Ordinary Income: - \$ 2,512.34

Net Income with Other Incomes: - \$ 717.89

Total Checking/Savings: \$ 128,567.29

Total Assets: \$ 280,404.47

*With tax season, we have not received an updated
financial report.*



To all who are
celebrating an
Anniversary

Celebrate with the
Ministerial Alliance for
our 2nd Annual Picnic in
City Park
July 19, 2026
5:00-6:30 pm
rain date: August 16, 2026

APRIL SCRIPTURES

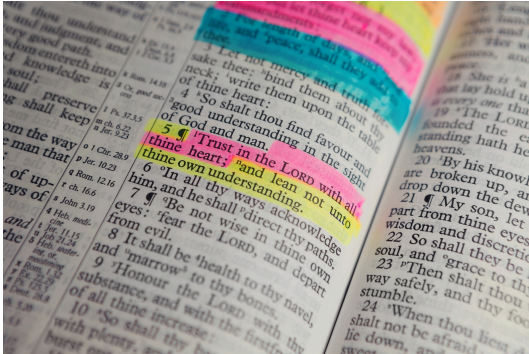
April 2: Exodus 12:1-14; Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19; I Corinthians 11:23-26; John 13:1-17, 31b-35--Maundy Thursday

April 5: Deuteronomy 7:1-26; Psalm 75; **John 5:19-30**; 2 Corinthians 1:1-17--Easter

April 12: Hosea 14:1-9; Psalm 119:73-96; **John 16:16-24**; 2 Corinthians 1:23-2:17

April 19: Zechariah 13:1-9; Psalm 108; **John 16:25-33**; 2 Corinthians 6:11-7:1

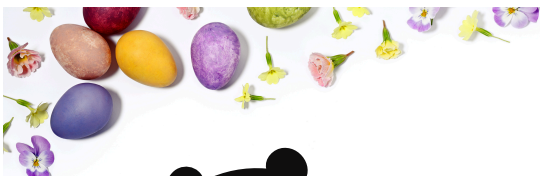
April 26: Genesis 38:1-30; Psalm 10; **Mark 12:18-27**; 2 Corinthians 7:2-16



The Leadership and Pastor Dixie are working on a few projects:

In order to keep the heat and air conditioning regulated in upstairs, please keep all doors closed. This includes doors to the side of the stage, the classroom doors, and the fellowship hall doors.

1. Looking for new shades for the East and West front windows of the sanctuary for the computer screen to be seen better.
2. The downstairs classroom is being finished by volunteers and donors. This classroom will become the meeting room for Leadership and Bible Study. The parlor will turn back into a parlor for families and other outside groups.
3. We are brainstorming ideas to invite people in to worship with us.
4. If anyone knows about the Endowment board, please speak with Pastor Dixie or one of the Leaders. Someone is interested in donating to the Endowment, but we need more information.





JESUS' RESURRECTION

Use the clues and the secret code below to figure out the answers to the questions. Then, see if you can find each of the words that you wrote in the word search.

I was told to watch the tomb containing Jesus' body. I thought it would be easy, until I felt the earth quake and saw an angel. Later, I was paid a lot of money to lie and say that Jesus' disciples had stolen His body while I slept. (Matthew 28:2-4 & 11-15)



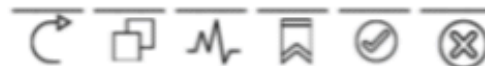
I was crying because I thought someone had moved Jesus' body, but then I heard Jesus say my name and saw Him standing before me! (John 20:1, 11-16)



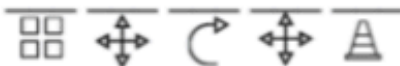
I spoke to some women and told them, "Do not be afraid; Jesus has risen from the dead!" (Matthew 28:5-6)



I said I would not believe that Jesus had risen from the dead until I could see and touch the nail prints in His hands and the place where the sword had pierced His side. (John 20:24-29)



Jesus asked me if I loved Him three times. In this way, He helped me to know that I was forgiven for denying that I knew Him three times before His death. (John 21:15-17)



A	D	E	G	H
L	M	N	O	P
R	S	T	U	Y

D	M	N	N	A	A	A	R	
A	A	D	U	Y	A	E	M	A
N	G	N	P	N	A	E	G	D
G	D	A	T	E	A	A	S	A
S	A	M	O	H	T	R	M	Y
M	L	O	A	M	U	E	R	A
D	E	R	D	G	U	A	R	D
A	N	G	E	L	M	E	A	A
H	E	D	U	L	A	H	A	O

Easter Word Search



Angel

Cross

Crown of Thorns

Easter

Empty Tomb

Good Friday

Holy

Hope

Jesus

King

Love

Mary

Messiah

Resurrection

Risen

Sacrifice

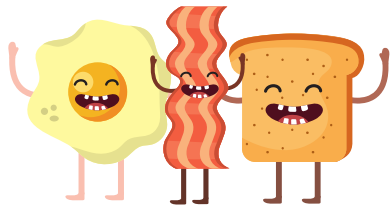
Salvation

Sunday

Savior

Third Day





The **St. Ansgar United Methodist** have Community Breakfast every Thursday morning from 7:15 a - 9:00 a. Free will donation and each week has a specific menu.

- April 2: Biscuits & Gravy
- April 9: Pancakes
- April 16: Waffles
- April 23: French Toast
- April 30: Belgian Waffles



MAT WORKSHOP
8—10:00 A.M.

JOIN IN COFFEE AND CONVERSATION WHILE WORKING ON MATS FOR THE HOMELESS. WE HAVE MADE 8 MATS FROM CLEAN PLASTIC BAGS SO FAR THIS YEAR.



If you stay for fellowship, there are many Sundays that are still open. Please sign up and bring your favorite pan of brownies, some cookies, or bread. Your home-made goodies are what makes fellowship warm and inviting.



Mark your calendars for April 18, 2026. The Northeast Association will be meeting at 10:00 am at Earlville United Parish in Earlville, IA. If you would like to attend, please speak with Pastor Dixie.



If you would like to buy flowers for the altar on Sunday mornings, please sign up on the sheet in the Narthex. We have a few places that are filled in, but have many open Sundays.

On May 9, 2026, Brandyn Miller at First Congregational UCC in Waterloo, will be having his Ecclesiastical Council at 1:00 pm. Please let Pastor Dixie know if you would like to go with her to this special event of the Northeast Association and Iowa Conference of the UCC.



APRIL

APRIL SHOWERS Bring MAY FLOWERS

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Grief Support Group 2 p Eden Cemetery Meeting 6 p	2 Days for Girls 1-3 p Maundy Thursday Worship 7 p Osage UCC	3 Bible Study 10 a Good Friday 7 p at Our Savior's Lutheran	4
5 Easter at Eden 8:00 a Easter at UCC 9:30 a Communion Sunday Brunch after 9:30 a worship	6 Presbyterian Cohort Cedar Falls 10 a	7 Confirmation 4 p	8 UCC Clergy Cluster 10 a Iowa Falls	9 Coffee at Kountry Kupboard 9 a LeRoy Session 7 p	10 Bible Study 10 a Dixie to stay in Jefferson for the Saturday meeting	11 All Presbyterian COM meeting in Jefferson, IA 10 a
12 Osage UCC 9 a Eden Presbyterian 10:30 a	13	14 Confirmation 4 p IA Conf. budget meeting 6:30 p	15 Grief Support Group 2 p	16 Days for Girls 1-3 p Ministerial Meeting 9:30 a	17 Bible Study 10 a	18 Northeast Association Meeting Earlville United Parish 10-2
19 Osage UCC 9 a Eden Presbyterian 10:30 a Game Day 2-4 p	20	21 Confirmation 4 p	22 Leadership 10 a Northeast Iowa COM zoom 2:30 p	23 Coffee at The Seminary 9 a Session 6 p	24 Bible Study 10 a	25
26 Osage UCC 9 a Eden Presbyterian 10:30 a	27	28	29	30		