

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



THE SPIRE
SEPTEMBER 2026

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

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CHURCH #: (641) 732-3452

WEBITE: WWW.OSAGEUCC.ORG

REV. DIXIE LAUBE

DIXIE.LAUBE@GMAIL.COM

PASTOR'S CELL: 641-300-7245

OFFICE HOURS MONDAY - THURSDAY 9 AM—1 PM

(SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

PLEASE CALL TO SET UP AN APPOINTMENT

THE SPIRE

OSAGE UCC MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

by **Rev. Dixie Laube**

Osage United Church of Christ family--you make me proud to say I am your pastor. Since I have returned from sabbatical, things are turning a corner. There are a lot of conversations happening about what can we do to help our community. What an amazing time and place we are in, right now! You all did such great work in June at the potluck, the momentum is continuing in our daily lives. Thank you!!!

September is one of those months where programming starts back up for many churches and of course school. We have some wonderful things taking place this Fall. We have Bible Study starting up on September 16. We will be discussing the scriptures that are listed here in the Spire. We will start with the scriptures for September 20. You can find those listed in the area where I placed the invitation for Bible Study. We are also planning a Spaghetti Benefit dinner that will take place in October for Shop on State. We are excited about keeping the Little Food Pantry stocked, even when it might be emptied out within 24 hours. All these things are something every single one of you "should" be proud of. Osage United Church of Christ is alive and well!

Jesus said, "The poor will always have you, but you will not always have me." (Matthew 26:11). There are many insecurities in Osage...meaning we have many who do go hungry and they are not only adults, we have children who are going without meals. 35.6% of the lunches at the Osage schools are free and reduced. 35.6%...that is over 1/3 of the children and youth who attend. Out of the 939 students, 333 of them qualify for the free and reduced lunch program. So, putting this in perspective: "Breakfast there is no cost for all. Lunch is \$2.70 for Elementary; \$2.65 for MS/HS. The children may qualify for free meals or milk or for reduced price meals at \$0.30 for breakfast and \$0.40 for lunch." I had no clue this was the status of our children and youth at Osage schools.

This leads me to the question, how do we help? Well, the Little Food Pantry is truly doing its job. It is feeding people, however, there could be more we can help with. Maybe we consider paying off a few of the student fees for those who might be delinquent? Maybe we consider an after school snack for those who walk home? I'm not sure what our foot traffic is here by the church, but I'm guessing it would pick up if we handed out chips or granola bars to the children. I mention this because the Cedar Rapids UCC church does something called Monday Munchies. They stand out by the church for a half hour and hand the children and youth a little something to get them through the afternoon. Is this something we would also like to take on? It does require a few hands to volunteer and money to buy the snacks.

Let us be intentional with how we go forward from everything we have discussed. There are needs in the community around us. I also know we cannot fulfill all the needs. However, we can start small, and see where God leads.

Blessings,
Pastor Dixie

Leadership Board Minutes
Osage UCC
July 22, 2026

Pam Masmar called the July 22, 2026 meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Members present: Bruce Weis, Tony Murphy, Jon Masmar, Dean Olson, Pat Weis, Jill Olson, and Pastor Dixie Laube. Pastor Dixie opened the meeting with prayer.

Jill made the motion to approve the May minutes; seconded by Bruce. Unanimously passed. Jill moved to approve the June minutes; seconded by Dean. Unanimously passed.

April, May, and June financial reports were discussed. Dean moved to approve them; seconded by Bruce. Unanimously passed.

In Old Business, the window shades in the sanctuary have been installed at the cost of \$2,528.04.

In discussion of June 14, 2026 meeting, the group discussed having a fund-raiser/meal for Shop on State in the fall. Will be discussed in future meetings.

Other take-aways from the June 14th meeting were: A Valentines dinner has been mentioned for February. Possibly designing/ordering Osage UCC tee shirts was brought to the board. Will be discussed later. 2028 will mark the 170th anniversary of our church.

Stage 2 of radon mitigation installation has been completed. We are awaiting an electrician to hook up the fans. These fans will need to run for two weeks before radon readings should be taken for evaluation of effectiveness. A \$7,562.34 check was written and sent to Hackett Construction and Radon Mitigation for completion of Stage 2.

In New Business, possible recipes and bagged ingredients for each recipe may be collected to see how those go over with pantry users. No action taken.

In Pastor's Report, Pastor Dixie supplied a detailed list of upcoming events/appointments. See attached sheet.

There will be no August 2026 meeting. The meeting adjourned at 11:20 a.m. with the praying in unison of the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted by Jon Masmar

PRAYER REQUESTS



Rev. Peter Wenzel
Haley Ann Weis (new granddaughter)
Vernon Smith
Sue Kuper
Elizabeth Uthe
The Family of Daisy Huffman

Nancy Duncan
Eunice Pringnitz
Annette
Myron Kuper
Joyce
Ann Adams (knee)



COFFEE WITH PASTOR DIXIE

EVERYONE IS WELCOME

SEPTEMBER 3 AT 9:00 AM
KOUNTRY KUPBOARD

SEPTEMBER 24 AT 9:00 AM
THE SEMINARY



Our Income to Expenses (Jan. - July) 2026:

Total Income: \$ 80,392.49

Total Expenses: \$ 103,024.77

Net Income: - \$ 22,632.28

This is actually about where we were at the end of July 2025.

Our accounts still look amazing. We have a total of \$ 108,258.94 in checking and savings as of the end of July. Our current assets, which are our scholarships and 2 General Fund CDs have \$154,940.77.

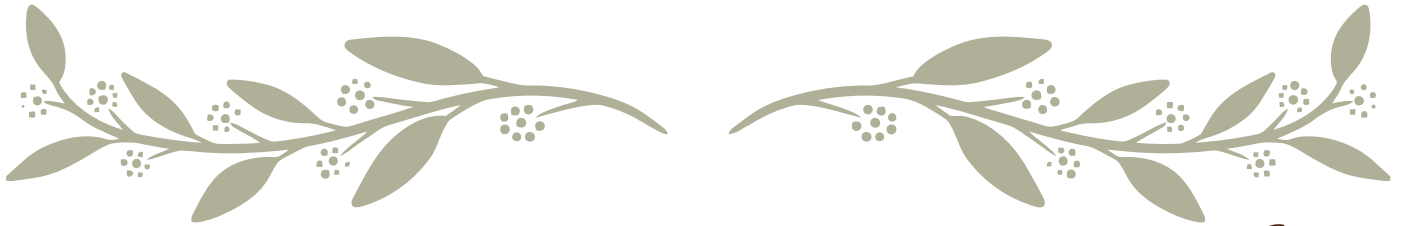
Pastor Dixie will be on Vacation September 7 through September 11.

Pastor Dixie will also be taking September 22 and September 23 off to be with her parent's for her dad's appointments.



Road
Trip

While Pastor Dixie is away, Andy Sayer from Prairie Lakes will be stepping in for any emergency calls for the two churches. Andy's number is: 563-380-8627.



BIBLE STUDY



Starting the week of September 13, there will be two Bible Studies offered.

These sessions will cover the same material, they will be hosted at different places.



On Sundays, at 5:30 pm, Bible Study will be held at Eden Presbyterian Church. First session will be September 20, 2026.

On Wednesdays, at 5:30 pm, Bible Study will be held at Osage UCC on September 16, 2026.

For our first gathering, please read the following scriptures:

Exodus 16:2-15

Psalms 105:1-6, 37-45

Philippians 1:21-30

Matthew 20:1-16

Bring questions and bring a friend!



September 11 – Vivian Kuper
September 18 – Amanda Powers
September 26 – Dean Olson
September 29 – Adrienne McKinley
September 29 – Mable Buerckley

September 2 – Dean and Jill Olson
September 4 – Ross and Alicia Kuper
September 8 – Doug and Deb Kuehne



SEPTEMBER SCRIPTURES



September 6: **Exodus 12:1-14**; Psalm 149; Romans 13:8-14;
Matthew 18:15-20

September 13: **Exodus 14:19-31**; Psalm 114; Romans
14:1-12; Matthew 18:21-35

September 20: **Exodus 16:2-15**; Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45;
Philippians 1:21-30

September 27: **Exodus 17:1-7**; Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16;
Philippians 2:1-13; Matthew 21:23-32





Shop on State Benefit Dinner

Served "Where it All Began!"
The United Church of Christ of Osage, IA
630 State Street

Spaghetti Dinner

Fundraiser

FREE WILL DONATION
for the dinner

FREE WILL DONATION
for the dinner

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2026
SERVING STARTS AT 4:30 PM
UNTIL WE RUN OUT

Join us for a delicious spaghetti dinner & support a great cause

Raffle Items will also be present

September Trust/Joseph

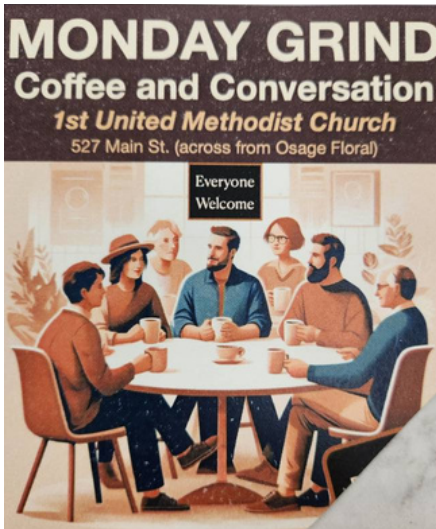
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B	A	W	R	Q	J	C	U	P	B	E	A	R	E	R	M	N
K	S	J	E	I	A	W	H	E	A	T	X	C	A	G	B	D
G	M	O	H	Q	C	N	T	R	U	S	T	F	X	H	Z	I
F	G	P	V	G	O	T	V	F	L	J	S	Y	F	N	L	N
K	G	O	B	J	B	U	K	L	L	I	X	J	A	I	L	G

understanding	cupbearer
forgive	genesis
jacob	stars
heart	trust
well	lord

proverbs
dreams
wheat
jail

brothers
baker
egypt
cows





HOURS 8-10 AM

GOOD COFFEE

GOOD CONVERSATION.

**MONDAY MORNINGS AT
OSAGE UMC!**



Helping our brothers and sisters in Christ with their Mission

First United Methodist Church is making mats for the homeless. These mats are made from plastic bags. These mats provide a barrier between the ground and individuals, offering insulation, comfort, and protection from moisture. They are also lightweight and portable, making them easy for individuals experiencing homelessness to carry and store.

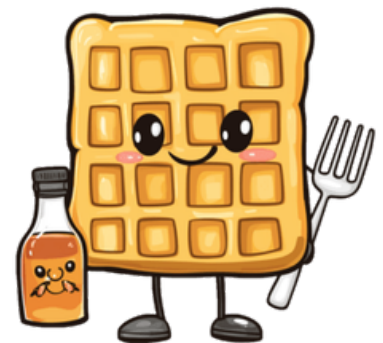
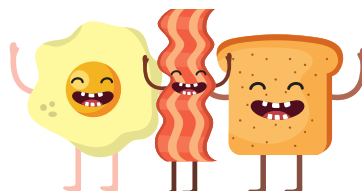


If you have an excess of plastic bags at home, please bring them to church with you. We will be sure to get the bags to the UMC.

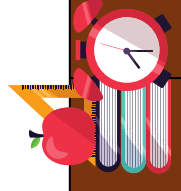


The **St. Ansgar United Methodist** have Community Breakfast every Thursday morning from 7:15 a - 9:00 a. It is a free will donation and each week has a specific menu. Here is the schedule for September's breakfasts:

Sept. 10: Biscuits & Gravy
Sept. 17: Waffles
Sept. 24: French Toast



September



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 Grief Group 2-4 NE COM 2 via zoom	3 Coffee with Pastor at Kountry Kupboard 9 am Days for Girls 1-3	4	5
6 Worship with Communion Osage UCC 9 am Eden 10:30 am	7 LABOR DAY	8 PASTOR DIXIE ON VACATION	9 Clergy Cluster 10 Alden	10 PASTOR DIXIE ON VACATION	11	12
13 Osage UCC 9 am Eden 10:30 am	14 Presbyterian Cohort 10 Presbyterian COM 4	15 Women's Morning Circle 9:30 UMC Session & Trustees 6 pm	16 Grief Group 2 Bible Study 5:30 at UCC	17 Ministerial Alliance 10:00 Days for Girls 1-3	18 JAM IN SIOUX FALLS, SD	19 Autumn Artistry Iowa UCC Annual Meeting
20 Osage UCC 9 am Eden 10:30 am Bible Study 5:30 at Eden	21	22 DIXIE OUT OF OFFICE	23 NE Iowa UCC COM 2 Bible Study 5:30 at UCC	24 Coffee with Pastor Seminary 9 am	25	26 Presbyterian All Iowa COM meeting 9-3
27 Osage UCC 9 am Eden 10:30 am Bible Study 5:30 at Eden	28	29 Nora Springs 2 pm	30 Bible Study 5:30 at UCC			