

Osage United Church of Christ
630 State Street
Osage, IA 50461

Return Service Requested



The Spire October 2024

Osage United Church of Christ
630 State Street
Osage, IA 50461

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Reverend Dixie Laube

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Pastor's Cell: 612-812-7942

Office hours Tuesday-Friday 9 am—1 pm

Tuesday & Wednesday at Eden

Thursday & Friday at Osage



Greetings Everyone,

I have so much I want to share from my continuing education in Leawood, KS and not enough space to do it. There are two things I would like to do for Advent so I need some help. The first is make the sanctuary look like a stable. OR, we build a stable with old wood. Don't worry I have pictures. And, I would like to have an empty manger in the front of the sanctuary. I'll explain later...however, these two things need to be done on or before November 30. Oh, and yes, some of the Christmas decorations will have to find new homes during the season of Advent. I'm taking us back to the beginning with a simplified Christmas. So, with that stated, I turn this over to Faith Herout to introduce herself to you.

Peace,

Pastor Dixie Laube

Greetings,

I would like to introduce myself to you all. I am Faith Herout. I am in my final year of seminary with The University of Dubuque Theological Seminary. I answered God's call to ministry in 2018 when asked about becoming a Commissioned Ruling Elder in the Presbyterian Church. I took the courses that earned me my Certificate from UDTs and was commissioned by the Blackhawk Presbytery in Illinois to be an Associate Pastor to the church I had been attending and working with in Christian Education.

I began my two year service in February of 2020 and continued to listen for God's calling for me. Shortly after finishing up my two years, I moved out to Nora Springs to occupy my Grandparent's home. I have been working hard through Seminary the past three years and I am looking forward to graduating this coming spring and discerning where God will be leading me in my future ministry.

I am happy to be spending this fall and winter with you all. Thank you for welcoming me and helping me grow!

Blessings

Faith

Osage UCC Leadership Board Minutes

August 14, 2024

The UCC Leadership Board met in the parlor on Wednesday, August 14, 2024, at 6:07 p.m.

Those attending were Pastor Dixie, Ashley Kuper, Dennis Fannin, and Bruce and Pat Weis. Pattie Forshay was present to take notes. The meeting was called to order by Dixie with a prayer following.

The minutes from the July 24th meeting were read, and a motion to approve them was made by Dennis Fannin, seconded by Ashley Kuper. Motion passed.

The treasurer's report was reviewed and included a discussion regarding the Smolik Trust. An out-of-state letter was received which noted that trust funds were being processed. All other items were routine with the exception of the payment for the epoxy flooring project - \$18,000. Ashley made a motion to approve the report, and Dennis seconded. Motion passed.

College scholarship applications have been submitted by Kendall and Kaitlyn Olson. Each would potentially receive \$500, based on the scholarship account the funds are pulled from. Pat Weis will research the differences between the four scholarship accounts, and the topic was tabled as funds are not released, if approved, until after completion of a semester.

A Grinnell quote for church insurance came in substantially higher than expected. Josh Olson recommended Church Mutual Insurance as a possible alternative company. Other churches have also switched to CMI. A report of claims filed during the last five years (a.k.a., a loss run report) was needed before CMI could provide a new quote. Our church insurance provider changed during that five-year time, and Dennis reached out to the Church Association insurance provider for additional loss run information. Once all the historical information has been received, CMI will provide a new quote. Grinnell will continue to cover the church through September. Features of CMI include water, smoke, and temperature alarm notifications.

The next meeting of Leadership will be Wednesday, September 18th, at 6:00 p.m., and will be a joint meeting with Eden Presbyterian to review cost sharing. The meeting will be held at Eden.

Briana Williamson with First Grace requested Sunday school space for approximately 20 children starting September 15th. Sunday school sessions would begin at 9:30 a.m. and complete prior to their service at 10:30 a.m. Ashley and Dixie will develop the terms of the agreement prior to its beginning. They would use the room between Dixie's office and Della's music room. They would not need a key. Ashley made a motion to approve, seconded by Bruce Weis, for use and a rental fee of \$200/month. A team from UCC will need to clean out the room prior to use.

As new business, UCC was asked for a donation to the Osage Police Department. Last year, the church donated \$150 to the police fund (helping kids and fighting drugs). Dennis made a motion to repeat the contribution, seconded by Pat Weis. Motion approved.

Another new item for discussion was a Back-to-School Fun Day at City Park on Sunday, September 8th. This would be a potluck, with members bringing a dish to share, and hot dogs provided by UCC, for any neighborhood kids and parents who wish to come. Event approved.

The Buerckleys are also planning on having their Fall Festival in late September or mid October on their farm. Dixie will ask Mable what date works best for them.

Pat Weis asked whether we would be replacing Brandon Parcel for his position on Leadership. He is working longer hours and has additional duties in town, which led to his resignation from Leadership. Identifying a replacement is an ongoing process.

Pastor Dixie reported that there have been several funerals recently which occupied much of Pastor's schedule. She would also like to begin an adult bible study soon. A discussion was had regarding when to start and when to meet.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m. with The Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia K. Forshay

Coffee with Pastor Dixie

Join us for coffee on the 2nd and 4th Thursday in October at 9:00 am.

October 10—Kountry Kupboard

October 24—Seminary



Scripture Readings for October

The scriptures in **BOLD** will be the ones preached on

October 6: Job 1:1, 2:1-10; Psalm 26; Hebrews 1:1-4, 2:5-12;
Mark **10:2-16**

October 13: Job 23:1-9; 16-17; Psalm 22:1-15; Hebrews 4:12-16;
Mark **10:17-31**

October 20: Job 38:1-7, (34-41); Psalm 104:1-9, 24, 35c; Hebrews 5:1-10; Mark **10:35-45**

October 27: Job 42:1-6, 10-17; Psalm 34:1-8, (19-22); Hebrews 7:23-28; Mark **10:46-52**



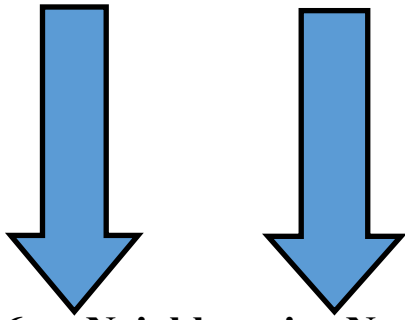
Welcome Fall!



www.celebratingholidays.com
Illustrations by Decorartist

"I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing" -- Jesus (John 15:5).

Upcoming Collections



October 6: Neighbors in Need/ World Communion Sunday.

Neighbors in Need is a special mission offering of the United Church of Christ that supports ministries of justice and compassion in the United States. This year's offerings will help with mental health. 1/3 of his offering is given to the Council for American Indian Ministry and 2/3's is used by the Justice and Witness ministries of the UCC.

DEC. 22—Christmas Fund—This fund has been caring for active, retired clergy, and lay employees of the UCC for over 100 years. It provides emergency grants, supplementation of small annuities and health premiums, and Christmas "Thank You" gift checks in December to our lower-income retirees.

OCWM—Our church's wider mission offerings are collected all year long. This offering helps the Conference and National offices to maintain staffing in order to do the work beyond the local church. *Side note this offering has significantly decreased over the years and a lot of staffing has been reduced because of lack of funds. It is our covenantal obligation to support the tiers of the UCC: the Northeast Association, Conference and National Offices. Please consider giving to this offering before the year ends.

Our other two offerings are **Pentecost** and **One Great Hour of Sharing**. These offerings were collected at the beginning of 2024. However, if you haven't given to these, please consider doing so before the year ends.

Joys and Concerns

- The Kramme's move
- Gene Cordle
- Bill's Surgery on Sept. 5
- Linda (Nancy's daughter) Covid
- Philip
- Alex
- Great-Nephew Landon Huisman
- Marlene Ham
- Vicki's foot
- Ann Adams
- Joannie—knee
- Bruce—bear hunting
- Tony's wife—Iowa City surgery
- Max's family
- Tragic for people losing hope for the life they once knew
- Chuck Thorson
- Family of Maurice Johnson
- Jean & Ron Evanson Anniversary
- Luke & Sarah's Anniversary



Our Income to Expenses (Jan.– August 2024)

Total Income: \$ 93,180.99

Total Expenses: \$ 17,347.32

Net Loss: \$ 14,495.30

Don't get too excited here. We paid for the flooring with what we had and didn't transfer any monies. We still have money in our accounts. This just shows the 2024 year...not the accumulative numbers. We have 119,681.79 in our checking and savings!

Thank you for your continued giving and support to Osage UCC! All is looking well for the 2024 year! Give yourselves a pat on the back and keep up the excellent work of giving to your church!

I WILL GIVE *thanks* TO YOU, LORD,
WITH ALL MY HEART;
I WILL TELL OF ALL YOUR
WONDERFUL DEEDS.

Psalm 9:1 (NIV)



Raymond Stonecypher – Oct 9

Alicia Kuper - Oct. 12

Nadezka Murphy - Oct. 16

Noreen Fink - Oct. 19

Cash Kuper - Oct. 23

Keith Mckinley - Oct. 29

Dora Biederman - Oct. 31



Keith and Marlene Ham - Oct. 9

Fall Evening of Fun!

**Come join an evening of laughter and fellowship on
October 20, 2024 5:00 pm-7:00 pm**



Where? Howard and Mable Buerkley's Pumpkin Patch Farm

Time: 5:00 pm—7:00 pm

UCC will be providing hamburgers, chips, and baked beans. Russ Brandau is providing homemade ice cream. Please bring your own drinks.

Hayrides will be provided by Howard and Mable

Bring your lawn chair! And enjoy an evening at the pumpkin patch.

Name: _____

Fall Fun Word Search

f t s f u n a h i p

a l o v e p p a l u

l w q s o r p r e m

l i g h t a l v a p

j h w i p i e e v k

h a a n i s x s e i

b y f e b e c t s n

f o o t b a l l z o

fall apple

light pumpkin

shine leaves

harvest hay

football praise

fun love





October 2024



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Eden Office 9-1	2 Eden Office 9-1 Grief Group 4	3 Osage Office 9-1 JAM follow up 4:30	4 SOCK SALE	5
6 Communion UCC Worship 9:00 Eden 10:30	7 Presbyterian Cohort 10 am in Reinbeck	8 Eden Office 9-1	9 Eden Office 9-1 Grief Group 4	10 Osage Office 9-1 Coffee 9 Faith's Team 4 LeRoy 7	11 Osage Office 9-1	12
13 UCC Worship 9:00 Eden 10:30 Faith will preach	14	15 Eden Office 9-1 Nora Springs 2	16 Eden Office 9-1 Grief Group 4 Leadership 6	17 Osage Ministers 9 Osage Office 9-1	18 Osage Office 9-1	19
20 UCC Worship 9:00 Eden 10:30 Fall Festival 5:00	21	22 Eden Office 9-1	23 Eden Office 9-1 Grief Group 4 Eden Women at Carol Schmidt's 6:30 pm	24 Osage Office 9-1 Coffee 9	25 Osage Office 9-1	26
27 UCC Worship 9:00 Eden 10:30 Faith will preach	28	29 Eden Office 9-1 Session 6	30 Eden Office 9-1 Grief Group 4	31 Osage Office 9-1		