

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



THE SPIRE
SEPTEMBER 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**

Well, Fall is almost here, though some would say it has already arrived with the nice, refreshing weather we've been having. Now, Summer isn't gone 100%—we all know there are still some hot days ahead—but with school back in session, it feels like the season is shifting. With that comes more traffic, and that means we all need a little extra patience on the roads. Out here on Mitchell County Line, there have been a lot of gravel trucks rumbling back and forth. I haven't taken the time to follow them to find out why, but I do know they make several trips a day. The dust they kick up is unreal—and when mowing near the road, the lawn is covered in it! Well, as people say, we always have something to complain about.

Yet, that's the thing... complaining. Why is it so much easier to complain than to see the good in things? The Bible is full of complaints. There's a whole book called Lamentations. Job poured out his complaints. Many Psalms start with laments before turning to joy. The disciples complained about feeding the crowds. Mary complained at the wedding in Cana when the wine ran out. The Israelites seemed to do nothing but complain in the wilderness. Complaining is part of our human story. Even before Jesus went to the cross, the people were still complaining that He wasn't the kind of king they wanted.

So, how do we get out of this "season" of complaining? Let's go back to the sermon from Sunday about people cutting us off in traffic. We complain, yell, or maybe shake a fist. But why? Wouldn't it be better if we gave them grace, smiled, and refused to let that one moment take up space in our hearts? When we carry frustration with us, it has the power to ruin our whole outlook for the rest of the day. And let's face it—these moments will always happen. If we aren't careful, our attitude can cause us to miss out on a lot of good in life.

Now, I'm not saying we will never complain again—let's be honest, the weather alone gives us plenty of material. If it's hot, we wish it were cooler. If it's cool, we wish it were warmer. And when winter arrives, we'll be ready to file our yearly complaint about snow shovels, icy sidewalks, and how long it takes to warm up the car! Complaining almost feels like a Midwest pastime.

But here's the challenge for us this season: what if we tried to balance every complaint with at least one word of gratitude? If we grumble about the dust on the road, maybe we also give thanks for the farmers who feed us. If we fuss about the long line at the store, maybe we also give thanks that the shelves are stocked. If we get irritated by traffic, maybe we also give thanks that we have somewhere to go and people to see.

We may not be able to stop ourselves from complaining altogether, but we can certainly tip the scales toward joy. After all, people notice how we carry ourselves. Do they see the love of Christ in us—or just another grumpy face in the crowd?

So as we roll into Fall with cooler days, football games, and pumpkin-flavored everything (whether we want it or not), let's try to sprinkle in more patience, grace, and laughter. Life is too short to let dust and traffic steal our joy. And who knows—maybe the next time a gravel truck barrels past, instead of muttering under our breath, we'll just wave and say, "Thanks for keeping things moving!"

Blessings,
Pastor Dixie

Osage UCC Leadership Board
July 24, 2025

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 June 18, 2025 meeting were read and corrected. Motion to accept minutes as corrected made by Bruce; seconded by Pat. Motion carried unanimously. Pastor Dixie will make the corrections before posting the report.

June 30, 2025 financial report was discussed. Motion to accept the report was made by Pam; seconded by Bruce. Motion carried unanimously.

In Old Business, Dennis revisited the 71 year old damaged, asbestos laden tiled ceilings in the upstairs parlor, hallway, and classrooms. Pat motioned that Dennis get at least 2 estimates for the removal and replacement of all or a portion of the asbestos ceiling tiles; seconded by Pam. Motion carried unanimously.

The basement classroom/store room flooring project is now classified as on hold, awaiting the cost of the ceiling replacement project.

The Little Food Pantry project is on hold, awaiting the donated supply of wood.

The group decided not to move forward with the hanging of the new banner. We decided both the old banner and the new banner stated the same idea. Dixie will offer the new one for sale to any interested UCC church.

In New Business, the addition of more gray, cushioned chairs was brought up. It was decided not to move further until more is known about the ceiling project.

Dennis will obtain 2 radon testing kits. One kit is for the testing of the actual basement that houses the boiler and one kit for the downstairs classroom for safety's sake. Motion made by Bruce; seconded by Pat. Motion carried unanimously.

Moderator Thoughts: Pastor Dixie will check the insurance file for payment information for workers' compensation coverage.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Dixie has visited church members at the nursing home and assisted living while providing worship services there. On Sunday, August 17, 2025, there will be a joint congregation worship service at Eden Presbyterian Church. The morning worship will begin at 10:00 a.m., followed by a potluck dinner. We look forward to the joint service.

Next meeting Aug. 28, 2025 at 4:00 p.m.

Following the Lord's prayer, the meeting was adjourned at 5:32 p.m.

Jon Masmar, Recorder

PRAYER REQUESTS



Alan & Carol Milton
David Stauffer
The family of Tom Costello
Sue Kuper
Myron Kuper
The family of Eleanor Skaar
Mable's Niece's Family in Chicago

Nancy Duncan
Eunice Pringnitz
Annette
June Wagner
Stephanie Fiore
Marj & Ray Stonecypher
Elizabeth Uthe



COFFEE WITH PASTOR DIXIE

EVERYONE IS WELCOME

SEPTEMBER 4 AT 9:00 AM
KOUNTRY KUPBOARD

SEPTEMBER 25 AT 9:00 AM
THE SEMINARY



Our Income to Expenses (Jan. - July):

Total Income: \$ 76,103.45

Total Expenses: \$ 101,534.92

Net Income: - \$ 25,431.47

Our accounts still look amazing. We have a total of \$ 109,813.81 in checking and savings as of the end of July.

Pastor Dixie will be on Vacation starting September 10 through September 17. There will not be worship on September 14 at Osage UCC **OR** Eden Presbyterian Church. We are declaring that Sunday as Visitation Sunday. Go, worship with a neighboring church in town or neighboring town. Here are some of the worship schedules:

Osage United Methodist worship at 9:00 am

Our Savior's Lutheran Church at 9:00 am

First Grace Lutheran at 10:30 am

Prairie Lakes at 9:00 am and 10:30 am



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.



PSALM 27:1





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



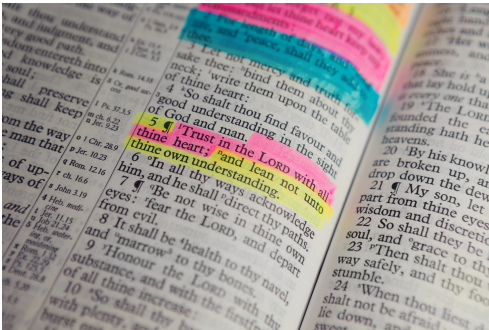
SEPTEMBER SCRIPTURES

September 7: Jeremiah 18:1-11; Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18;
Philemon 1:1-21; Luke 14:25-33

September 14: Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28; Psalm 14; **1 Timothy 1:12-17**; Luke 15:1-10

September 21: Jeremiah 8:18-9:1; Psalm 79:1-9; **1 Timothy 2:1-7**; Luke 16:1-13

September 28: **Jeremiah 32:1-3a, 6-15**; Psalm 91:1-6, 14-16;
1 Timothy 6:6-19; Luke 16:19-31



The BIBLE

DIRECTIONS:
Find and circle the
vocabulary words
in the grid. Look
for them in all
directions including
backwards and
diagonally.

ADAM AND EVE
BETHLEHEM
CROSS
DANIEL
DEUTERONOMY
DISCIPLES
EXODUS
GALILEE
GENESIS
HOLY SPIRIT
JERUSALEM
JESUS
JONAH
JOSEPH
MANGER
MARY
MOSES
NAZARETH
NOAH'S ARK
PARABLES
PRODIGAL SON
PROPHET
PROVERBS
PSALMS
RESURRECTION
REVELATION
SHEPHERD



BIBLE

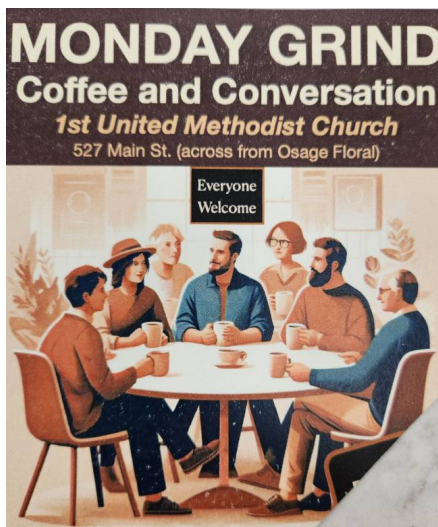
S D F Z G K X F I C O V E N A N T W Y S L
 E T E R N A L D O D C S C R I P T U R E B
 E P S I I B R C A K E G Z M V Z Q E K R P
 Q D T I V V E A U A L L H O D Z D O J V X
 Q M N Q I K D J T L B H E C I F I R C A S
 L Z E U G H E C F T A Z B X O Z S C F N O
 C E M T S Q M G Z A R Q G A S S S W M T Y
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

SCRIPTURE
 TESTAMENT
 COVENANT
 COMMANDMENTS
 PROPHECY
 MIRACLE
 PARABLE
 APOSTLE
 DISCIPLE
 GOSPEL

SALVATION
 REDEMPTION
 RIGHTEOUSNESS
 HOLINESS
 SANCTUARY
 TABERNACLE
 TEMPLE
 ALTAR
 SACRIFICE
 WORSHIP

PRAYER
 PRAISE
 THANKSGIVING
 MINISTRY
 SERVANT
 FAITHFUL
 OBEDIENCE
 REPENTANCE
 FORGIVENESS
 ETERNAL





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.

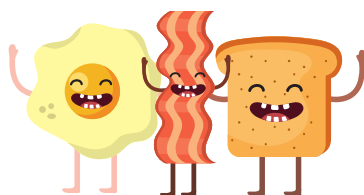


If you have an excess of plastic bags at home, please bring them to church with you. We will be sure to get the bags to the UMC.



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. 4: Biscuits & Gravy
Sept. 11: Pancakes
Sept. 18: Waffles
Sept. 25: French Toast



EDEN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
3105 GLASS AVE.
RUDD, IA

ICE CREAM SOCIAL
Sunday, September 7, 2025
11:30 am - 1:30 pm

**SLOPPY JOE'S, CHIPS, ICE CREAM,
HOME MADE PIES & DRINKS**

FREE WILL DONATION

**TAKE OUT
AVAILABLE**



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Labor Day	2 Nora Springs 2 p	3 Apple Valley and Faith Home 1:30 & 2:30 pm	4 Coffee at Kountry Kupboard 9 am	5	6
7 UCC Worship with Communion 9 am; Eden 10:30 worship EDEN ICE CREAM SOCIAL	8 Presbyterian Cohort 10-2	9	10 Pastor Dixie to Seattle	11 Pastor Dixie in Seattle	12 Pastor Dixie in Seattle	13 Pastor Dixie in Seattle
14 VISITATION SUNDAY NO WORSHIP AT EITHER CHURCH	15 Pastor Dixie in Seattle	16 Pastor Dixie in Seattle	17 Pastor Dixie home from Seattle	18 Ministers Alliance 9:00 am	19	20 Autumn Artistry
21 UCC 9:00 am Eden 10:30 am	22	23 Session 9:30 am	24 NE COM 2:30 pm	25 Coffee at Seminary 9:00 am	26	27
28 UCC 9:00 am Eden 10:30 am	29	30				