

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

Return Service Requested



The Spire November 2022

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

Email: osageucc@osage.net

Facebook: Osage United Church of Christ

Church: (641) 732-3452

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Reverend Dixie Laube
dixie.laube@gmail.com

Pastor's Cell: 612-812-7942

Office hours Tuesday-Friday 9 am—1 pm

Tuesday & Wednesday at Eden

Thursday & Friday at Osage

Greetings everyone!

“Give thanks with a grateful heart. Give thanks to the Holy One. Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ, His Son.” Don Moen

November is one of those months where many of us start to feel the anxiety of the holidays. Questions about where will the family gathering be at Thanksgiving, what about Christmas or even the New Year. We start to feel pressed for time or overloaded with so much to do, we eventually break down. We realize we spent too much time worrying about the “perfection” of the holidays and forgot about why we gather in the first place. I learned a long time ago being with family is the most important aspect to anytime we are able to be together because whenever we are together, there is no such thing as perfection—for anyone. Instead, reveal in the moments with family, friends, and loved ones because in the end no one really cares what was for dinner on Thanksgiving or what presents we received at Christmas or whose dress was the best on New Year’s Eve. What matters, in the end, is how we loved and how we were loved.

Yes, that might be a lot to take in during times like these. The world seems to be busting at the seams because of inflation and other things that are out of our control. We are to be thankful for the life we have, are able to lead, and make the most of it. When the Pilgrims landed in 1620, it was in late November on the East Coast and it was cold. For several months, they lived on the Mayflower, and ferried back and forth from shore to build their new storage and living quarters. The first fort and watchtower was built on what is now known as Burial Hill—which contains the graves of Bradford and the original settlers. As you know, more than half of the Pilgrims died during that first winter because of poor nutrition and housing.

Over the first year, the Pilgrims met the Native Inhabitants of the Wampanoag people who had lived in the area for more than 10,000 years before the Europeans arrived. Soon after their settlement was built, they met Tisquantum (Squanto) who taught the Pilgrims how to plant corn, to fish and hunt beaver. It wasn’t until 1621 did the Pilgrims and Pokanokets shared the harvest feast of what we know as Thanksgiving today. Would you be able to eat deer, seafood, fruits of the first pilgrim harvest and pumpkin for your Thanksgiving today? Because that is what the first meal was and it morphed into turkey, potatoes, stuffing, green bean casserole, macaroni and cheese, sweet potatoes, and so much more depending on your family heritage.

Anyway, the point I am trying to make is Thanksgiving is more than what is on the dinner table. It is about being with friends and family and truly enjoying each other’s company. I encourage all of you to think about the last time ‘thanksgivings’ were lifted to God for the amazing life we all lead. AND if it has been awhile, stop reading this, and tell Him how much He is appreciated and how much you Love Him for the amazing life you have. Go on, do it! Being grateful and being thankful in this way, will allow His love to ignite something inside. He will give us all a warm fuzzy feeling this holiday season (instead of that cold worry heart). And may this Thanksgiving and Fall be one of the best years we all have had in quite some time.

Peace,

Pastor Dixie Laube

Osage UCC Leadership Minutes

October 5, 2022 (unapproved)

The United Church of Christ Leadership Board met at Lou Ann Murphy's Office on Main Street on Wednesday, October 5, 2022 at 5:00 pm.

Those attending were Pastor Dixie, Reed Kuper, Ashley Kuper, Lou Ann Murphy, Gene Cordle, Brandon Parcel, Dean and Jill Olson.

Called to Order by Jill and prayer by Pastor Dixie at 5:00pm.

Minutes from previous meeting were read. Minutes were accepted as read.

Treasurer's report was in order. Questions for Lou Ann as treasurer were asked and answered. Please see attached treasurer's report.

Old business was how to pay for railings, concrete, painting, and maintenance. Do we use money from Smolik Trust or pay approximately \$15000.00 from the general fund. Dean made a motion to use the general fund for the improvements on the church and leave alone the Smolik Trust. Reed seconded the motion and motion was passed by all.

Sunday School has started with LuAnn helping with the primary kids and Jill teaching the first and third graders. Jett Kuper will be gifted a new Bible since he is in third grade.

New Business:

LuAnn and Jill met with Susie Brandau and Mike Marth from Eden Presbyterian this past month to discuss Pastor Dixie's increase. They informed the board that the agreement was set at 4.0%. Reed made the motion to accept this agreement and LuAnn seconded the motion. Motion was passed.

LuAnn said she would get the Budget worked on to bring it to the board next month.

Crop walk is October 16 at 1:00 starting from the Methodist Church. All donations are welcomed.

Ashley Kuper and Gene Cordle have agreed to stay on the Board for another two year term.

November 13 will be a Sunday with Brunch and Stewardship Sunday celebration. We will ask for donations to help the general fund and mission work funds.

Pastor Dixie will be leaving for a week for Iowa Conference in Sioux City, Iowa. Dean will be leading worship for October 9. Dixie is also asking our church to become involved with Puerto Rico Families migrating to Osage and welcoming them to our community. Discussion was good with thoughts on how to welcome the new families.

Sincerely,

Jill M Olson

President

Join us for something NEW!
Come worship with us on November 13
in the Fellowship Hall for brunch!

The SUNDAY BRUNCH is BACK!

YES: BRUNCH and WORSHIP.



Mark your calendars for **November 13 at 9:00 am**. We will worship and eat in the fellowship hall at 9:00 am. We will celebrate our amazing community of Osage United Church of Christ and take up an extra offering that will help us stay caught up with our budget for 2022-2023.

Our goal for this new and exciting event is to raise \$10,000. We surpassed \$12,000 last year, so we know, with your help, we can hit this goal.

Think about everything we have done: Shop on State; Days for Girls; Non-Profit Office spaces; having children join us in worship and so, so much more.

We will be celebrating Stewardship Sunday and talk about what the church and this Body of Christ does for "me". Pastor Dixie might call on a few people to share what Osage UCC means to me...so come, listen, and share your story in the company of your family and friends!

We are excited to hear from all of you. And we are excited for something new!!

The Osage UCC Leadership Team

Our Income to Expenses (Jan.-Sept.)

Total Income: \$ 98,328.47

Total Expenses: \$ 97,572.41

Net Income/Loss: \$ 756.06



I must say, YOU are all AWESOME! Looking back on the year, we have not had a loss all year. Pat yourselves on the back, smile, and enjoy this moment! Without your continued support, ministry—your church—wouldn't happen. I know Osage UCC has gone through A LOT over the years...let it be in the past. TODAY is a new day! Rejoice and Be Glad in it!!

Pastor Dixie Laube

Thank you for your continued giving and support to your church: Osage UCC.

Joys and Concerns

- Diane Budding
- Bill and Carol Schmidt
- The family of Dean Norby
- Trevor Fannin and family
- Wayne Fredericks
- Megan
- Debbie



We also pray for those exposed to covid, and those who are being treated for covid. We pray for those living with cancer and new diagnoses.

We also pray for our military men and women—and our Veterans.

Coffee with Pastor Dixie

Mark your calendar for these two coffee dates with Pastor Dixie. They are a week apart because Thanksgiving is the fourth week.

**November 10 at 9:00 am at
Kountry Kupboard**

**November 18 at 9:00 am at the
Seminary**

**Come, join us for laughter and
fellowship.**



The First Sunday of Advent

On November 27, 2022, we will be celebrating our first Sunday of Advent. I don't know what your traditions are at Osage, though at other churches, many times the hanging of the greens happens during worship. Let's be thinking about how we want to decorate the sanctuary for the upcoming Christmas season.



I would also like 5 families to help me with the lighting of the Advent Candle. There will be a short reading and response with the congregation, and the lighting of the candles. If you are able to do this, please let me know.

Those Sundays are November 27, Dec. 4, 11, 18, and Christmas Eve.

Thank you for your help and I look forward to celebrating the birth of Christ with you and your families!

Pastor Dixie Laube



Shirley Wittham (Sept. 18)

Raymond & Diane Steffen (Sept. 19)





Thanksgiving Ecumenical Worship

November 20, 2022 at 6:00 pm

**At Osage United Church of
Christ**

With Fellowship after worship

**Northeast Association Meeting November 19, 2022 at 1:00 pm at Immanuel
United Church of Christ, Clarksville, IA.**

**This meeting is for the NE Association members to reconnect and get back to
our covenantal relationship. We have been disconnected for quite some time.
We are invited to be together with members, clergy, and other congregations
on this day.**

**Happiness is
God's Peace
in your
Heart!**



Let us
Come to Him with
THANKSGIVING

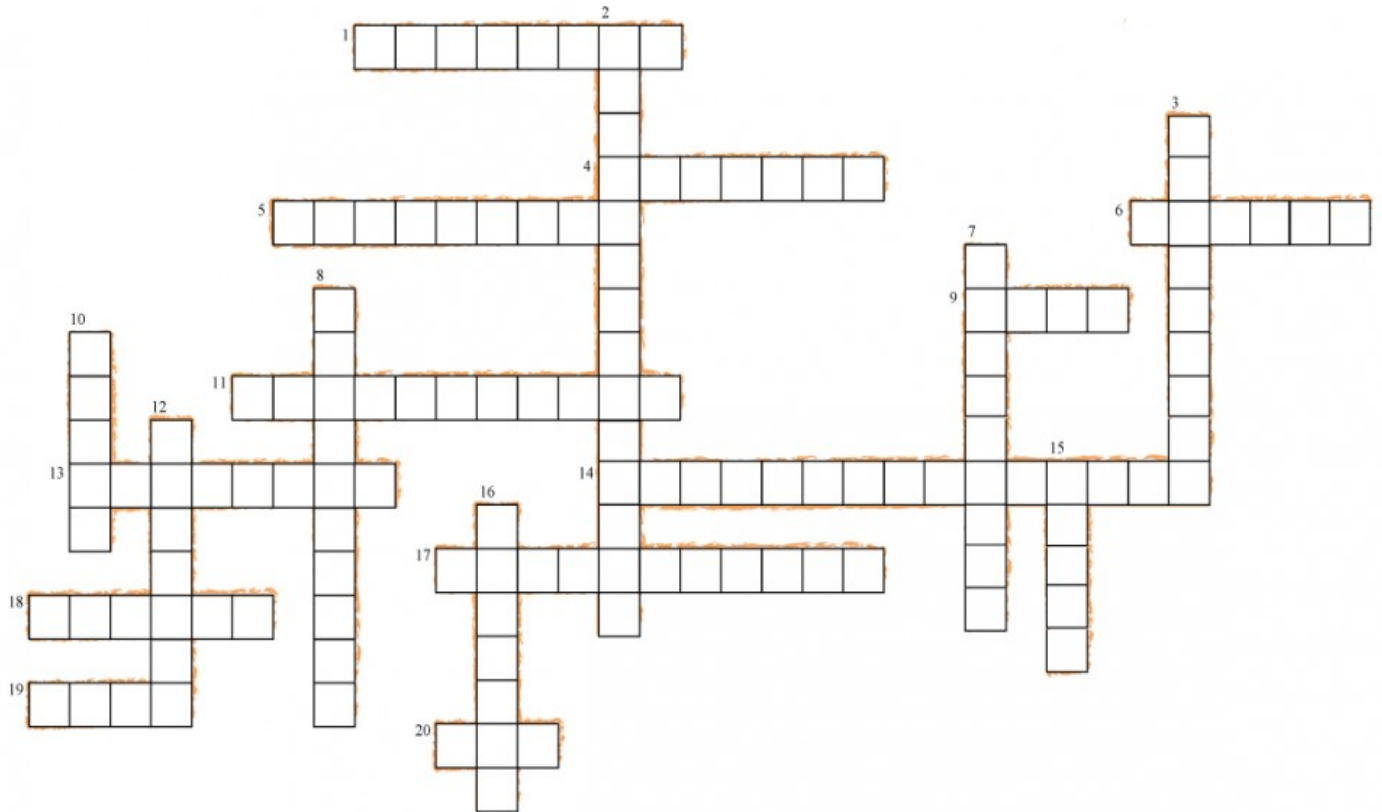
Let us sing

PSALMS
of praise
to HIM!

Psalm 95:2



Give Thanks



Across

1. What happens when you eat too much turkey.
4. Reaping what was sown.
5. Also called a hot dish in the American Midwest.
6. The people we love and make the best memories with.
9. The best and most important thing we can give everyone.
11. The skin and inside of this vegetable come in many different colors including yellow, orange, red, brown, and purple.
13. Earliest discovered recipe for this was in a Roman cookbook.
14. Day of remembering all of the blessing we have.
17. Small rounds of bread usually enjoyed during supper.
18. Thankfully the eagle became the national bird instead of this bird.
19. Sweet, baby, pop, cob, creamed, and flakes are varieties of this popular starchy plant.

Down

2. Recipe for this started appearing no later than 1747.
3. Red berry harvested in fall by floating on a bog.
7. Gifts freely and generously given.
8. Haricots verts is a delicious French variety of vegetable.
10. A delightful and delicious celebration banquet.
12. A symbol of harvest time.
15. Comes in many varieties including: brown, cream, mushroom, and even chocolate.
16. A traveler who is on a journey to a holy place.

Salvation Army--Mitchell County

Bell ringers are needed during November and December.

Sarah Krukow, at the Osage Police Department, heads this up, she manages our Salvation Army assistance for Mitchell County.

Monetary donations are accepted anytime at
432 Main Street, Osage

If you would like to sign up with your family, you may do so by calling Sarah at:
641-732-3777.





November 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Eden Office 9-1	2 Eden Office 9-1 Faith Home 2:30	3 Osage Office 9-1	4 Osage Office 9-1	5
6 UCC Worship 9:00 Eden 10:30 Communion	7 8 Eden Office 9-1 Nora Springs 2:00	9 Eden Office 9-1	10 Coffee 9:00 Osage Office 9-1	11 Osage Office 9-1	12	
13 UCC Worship 9:00 Brunch Eden 10:30	14 NE COM 1:00	15 Eden Office 9-1	16 Eden Office 9-1	17 Osage Office 9-1 Osage Clergy 9:00	18 Coffee 9:00 Osage Office 9-1	19 NE Association Meeting 1:00 pm Clarksville
20 UCC Worship 9:00 Eden 10:30 Thanksgiving 6:00	21 22 Eden Office 9-1	23 Osage Office 9-1 Apple Valley 1:30 Faith Home 2:30	24 OFFICES CLOSED	25	26	
27 First Sunday of Advent UCC Worship 9:00 Eden 10:30	28 29 Eden Office 9-1	30				