

# The Messenger

## Underwood Lutheran Church

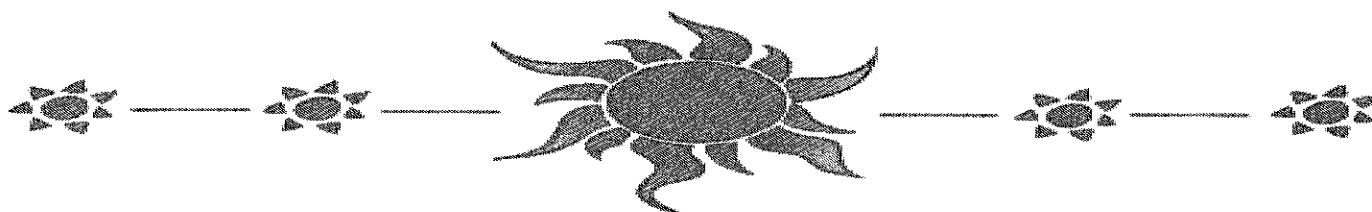
### August, 2020

Pastor Scott Dalen

Underwood Lutheran Church  
P.O. Box 9 – 10 3<sup>rd</sup>. Ave.  
Underwood, IA 51576

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SUMMER SCHEDULE – No Education - Worship Service @ 9:30 am



- Pastor Scott will be on vacation the first portion of the month, beginning Thursday July 30<sup>th</sup>-Wednesday August 12<sup>th</sup>. The Pastoral Staff of St John's Lutheran in Council Bluffs will be on call in his absence.
- Due to Pastor Scott's vacation there WILL NOT be outdoor worship on Sunday August 2<sup>nd</sup> or 9<sup>th</sup>. There will be online worship videos each Sunday. They will be more limited than a normal Sunday worship video, but will be available for a worship experience.
- An ongoing reminder that as we exercise ongoing caution in the face of COVID-19, the majority of our communication will continue to be digital. Information will be shared through the Church Website and Facebook.
- We've expanded our options for online interaction on Facebook. The church now hosts a group called "Underwood Lutheran Church Community." Facebook groups are designed to encourage interaction in a more accessible way than a regular page. You can find the group and join the group by visiting the church Facebook page and clicking on the blue button marked "Visit Group" found right under the main picture. Note that this Facebook group is private, and is intended only for individuals in and directly around the Underwood community. Individuals from outside our community are free to follow the public ULC Facebook page.
- We are online. Visit our webpage at <http://www.underwoodlutheran.org/> Find information on current ministry opportunities and worship times.  
Look for us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/UnderwoodLutheranChurch> Be sure to "Like" the page for updates about what's happening at ULC.  
Pastor Scott's weekly sermons are available on his blog at <http://thecollarandorangehat.wordpress.com/>  
Pastor Scott also produces a weekly podcast based on the scripture for the week, entitled The Rambling Rev. The audio from his sermons is also featured. Search for his podcast on Spotify, Google Play Music, or iTunes.



*For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Romans 8:38-39*

Dear ULC Community.

Many of you have likely heard me reference this passage out of Romans. In fact, you might have heard me reference it in a recent sermon, as it happens to be included in the assigned text that I am preaching on the week that I prepare this article. In truth, this article itself might just sound familiar, as it expresses many of the same thoughts that were included in the sermon itself.

Now the majority of the time that I think of this passage, or preach from it, it's a sad moment. We often find it featured in the context of a funeral service. It's also one that I come back to when I'm sitting with someone in the midst of truly difficult moments in their life as an individual or family. I find this passage truly encouraging during moments where hope might be hard to see.

In fact, I think the Apostle Paul probably had that very idea in mind as he wrote his letter to the Romans. Just before this, in the earlier portion of the 8<sup>th</sup> chapter, he talks about hope for that which we cannot yet see. It seems to me that the concept of hope and promise are closely tied together. And that it is amid hardship that we find our hope in these promises which are so vital for us.

And that brings us to our present reality, and the ongoing sense/state of unknowns in the world around us. As a society we are facing many challenges: Covid-19, social distancing, closures and shut-downs, news of success in other countries, news of continued challenges in yet other countries. We're facing ongoing tension around the issues of race and equality. Our nation is utterly divided on the grounds of politics, which becomes more and more apparent with every passing day as we inch closer to election day in November. All of this is troublesome and makes me shake my head.

In truth, much of what I see, hear, and witness disappoints me. To think that we have reached the point where the simple action of wearing a mask is seen by many, not all but many, as a political statement. Part of me wants to think “we know better than this.” And then on the flip side I think “Well, apparently we don’t. Because here we are.” I don’t know what or who to blame for this. And honestly, me trying to throw blame here isn’t going to get us anywhere.

Rather...let me just say this. **HERE WE ARE. THIS IS OUR REALITY NOW.**

And once we acknowledge that, let me offer another statement of truth. Whether we realize it or not, we are all in this together.

There’s a word that I first heard in my seminary days. *Ubuntu*. I believe its origin is South African, but don’t quote me on that. Roughly translated, Ubuntu means “I am because we are.” I told a guy he was awesome one day, and he responded “Ubuntu.” And when I gave a weird look he said “We are awesome together.”

But the flipside is also true. Ubuntu also means that we struggle together, that we mourn together. It means that we laugh and we cry WITH one another. Its honestly very counter-cultural to our Western ideal of the individual. But...its also very in line with the belief that we are connected and empowered by the Holy Spirit to be the body of Christ together.

That means we hold each other up. That means we offer support and encouragement and that we also receive the same from and for one another. This is not a new idea. We find it in Genesis 2 when God says “It is not good for the man to be alone.” This is what it means to be in relationship with one another. And when we are in relationship with each other, we can offer that hope when we see another who is struggling.

Folks...I am convinced that nothing in all creation can separate us from the love of God made real in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. But sometimes I need someone to remind me that its still true...or more specifically that its true for me. Because sometimes that annoying/destructive voice in the back of my head says, “It might be for everyone else, but not for you.”

Maybe that voice says the same thing to you. If that’s your reality today, then hear this promise from me. You are a child of God, and **NOTHING** can separate you from that truth. I pray that you find hope in that promise today.

Pastor Scott

## Offerings....

### *"Our gifts to God"*

	Offerings	Attendance
June 21	\$ 2330.71	38
June 28	\$ 2540.03	29
July 05	\$ 2530.79	33
July 12	\$ 2910.40	37
July 19	\$ 2780.71	57

(continued)

Therefore, as a former sponsoring organization, ULC has been asked to share the following

information regarding the class action lawsuit, and how to potentially participate if applicable. THIS IS IN NO WAY an indication that any wrong-doing or misconduct occurred within the local troop. Rather, we are sharing this notice at the request of the Boy Scout organization.

## Building Closure Status

At the July meeting of the Council, held 7-15, leadership discussed the ongoing state of the building closure given the current state of the ongoing pandemic. No official action was taken to change the current state, which lasts through Labor Day weekend.

However, we did discuss the likelihood of continuing in our present state through September while normal weather patterns will still be favorable to allow for outdoor worship. Again, this is not yet official, but is the anticipated action which will be taken at the August meeting of the council.

As we consider feedback received from a number of families who participate in Sunday morning educational opportunities, we are also anticipating delaying the anticipated start of the program year. While we normally hold Rally Sunday and kick off the program year in early September following Labor Day, we are strongly considering the first Sunday in October this year. This delay will allow us to see how things develop as the school year begins. Again, this is not yet official action. But this is very likely the approach that we will take next month.

4th Qtr Budgeted Income: \$ 44,023.75

4th Qtr Actual Income: \$ 57,189.77

4th Qtr Actual Expenses: \$ 47,917.19

## Notice For Any Former Members of the Local Boy Scout Troop

Over the course of approximately 4 years (2015-2019), Underwood Lutheran served as a sponsoring organization for a local Boy Scout Troop. As the sponsoring organization, we hosted the troop within our facility. However, the troop itself was self-contained and led by individuals from the Underwood Community. This ended during the 2018-2019 school year. The local troop ceased functioning, and therefore ULC has ceased serving in the capacity of sponsoring organization/host. That being said, the national organization of Boy Scouts (not the local troop or chapters), is currently facing a class action lawsuit in response to Sexual Abuse Claims within the organization.

(continued, next column)



## Sexual Abuse Claims in Boy Scouts Bankruptcy

**Regardless of how old you are today or when the sexual abuse occurred, you need to file your claim by 5 p.m. (Eastern Time) on November 16, 2020.**

The Boy Scouts of America ("BSA") has filed bankruptcy in order to restructure its nonprofit organization and pay Sexual Abuse Survivors. Please read this notice carefully as it may impact your rights against BSA, BSA Local Councils and organizations that sponsored your troop or pack and provides information about the case, *In re Boy Scouts of America and Delaware BSA, LLC*, No. 20-10343 (Bankr. D. Del.). This notice is a short summary. For more detail, visit [www.OfficialBSAclaims.com](http://www.OfficialBSAclaims.com) or call 1-866-907-2721.

### Who Should File a Sexual Abuse Claim?

**Anyone who was sexually abused during their time in Scouting, on or before February 18, 2020, must file a claim.** This includes sexual abuse in connection with Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts, or any entity or activity associated with Scouting. Sexual Abuse Claims include, but are not limited to: sexual misconduct, exploitation, or touching, sexual comments about a person or other behaviors that led to abuse, even if the behavior was not sexual or against the law, and regardless of whether you thought the behavior was sexual abuse or not. These acts could be between a: (1) child and an adult or (2) child and another child.

### When and How Should I File a Sexual Abuse Claim?

You should file a claim using the Sexual Abuse Survivor Proof of Claim by **November 16, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. (Eastern Time)**. **If you do not file a timely Sexual Abuse Claim, you may lose rights against BSA, BSA Local Councils or organizations that sponsored your troop or pack, including any right to compensation.** Only BSA is in bankruptcy. If you have a claim against the BSA Local Councils or other organizations, you must take additional legal action to preserve and pursue your rights.

**Your information will be kept private.** You can download and file a claim at [www.OfficialBSAclaims.com](http://www.OfficialBSAclaims.com) or call 1-866-907-2721 for help on how to file a claim by mail. Scouting participants who were at least 18 years of age at the time the sexual abuse began may also have claims related to sexual abuse and should consult the appropriate claim form at [www.OfficialBSAclaims.com](http://www.OfficialBSAclaims.com).

### ACT NOW Before Time Runs Out:



File a Sexual Abuse Survivor Proof of Claim.



If your claim is approved, you may receive compensation from the bankruptcy.



Have questions? Call or visit the website for more information.

**If a plan to reorganize BSA is approved, it could release claims you hold against certain third parties, including against BSA Local Councils and organizations that sponsored your troop or pack.** Please visit the website to learn more.

### Other Support

BSA will fund in-person counseling for current or former Scouts or their family. To request in-person counseling, please call 1-866-907-2721 or email [restructuring@scouting.org](mailto:restructuring@scouting.org).

**Your information will be kept private.**

August 2020						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						8/1 Pastor Scott/Vacation
2 Pastor Scott/Vacation 8:00 AM Online Service 9:30 AM No Outdoor Service	3 Pastor Scott/Vacation	4 Pastor Scott/Vacation	5 Pastor Scott/Vacation	6 Pastor Scott/Vacation	7 Pastor Scott/Vacation	8 Pastor Scott/Vacation
9 Pastor Scott/Vacation 8:00 AM Online Service 9:30 AM No Outdoor Service	10 Pastor Scott/Vacation	11 Pastor Scott/Vacation	12 Pastor Scott/Vacation	13	14	15
16 8:00 AM Online Service 9:30 AM Outdoor Service	17	18	19	20	21	22
23 8:00 AM Online Service 9:30 AM Outdoor Service	24	25	26	27	28	29
30 8:00 AM Online Service 9:30 AM Outdoor Service	31					

# Summer

Find and circle all of the summer words that are hidden in the grid.  
The remaining letters spell an additional summer item.

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

ANTS  
 AUGUST  
 BARBECUE  
 BASEBALL  
 BEACH  
 BEES  
 BICYCLE  
 BLUE SKY  
 BOATING  
 BREEZE  
 CAMPING

FISHING  
 FLIES  
 FLOWERS  
 GARDENING  
 GOLF  
 GREEN GRASS  
 HAT  
 HIKING  
 HOLIDAYS  
 HOT  
 ICE CREAM

JULY  
 JUNE  
 MOSQUITOES  
 NO SCHOOL  
 PICNIC  
 ROLLER BLADES  
 SANDALS  
 SKATEBOARD  
 SOCCER  
 SOLSTICE  
 SPRINKLERS

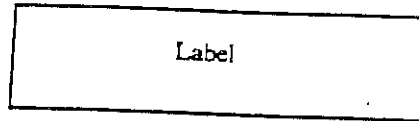
SUNBURN  
 SUNGLASSES  
 SUNSCREEN  
 SUNSHINE  
 SUNTAN  
 SWEAT  
 SWIMMING  
 UV RAYS  
 WASPS  
 WATER FIGHTS  
 WATERMELON

"THE MESSENGER"  
UNDERWOOD LUTHERAN CHURCH  
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