

The Messenger

Underwood Lutheran Church

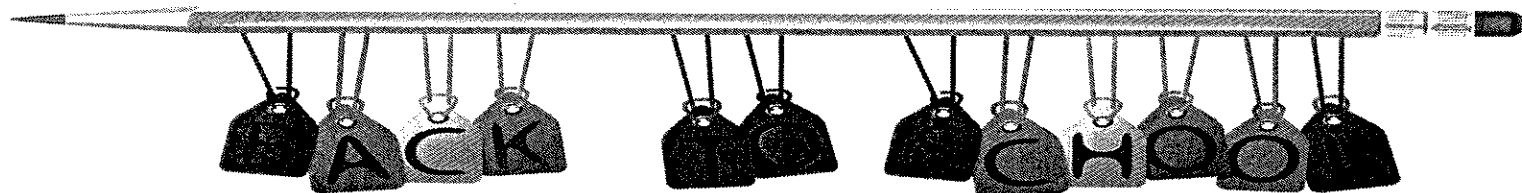
August, 2022

Pastor Scott Dalen

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

Congregational President – Tracy Shreeves – 402-981-5098
Editor, Secretary – Tonya Driver – 712-309-1512
Church Phone # - 566-2257
e-mail address: ulcsecretary@metc.net

No Education and Worship Service @ 9:30 am



- Holy Communion will be celebrated August 7th and 21st.
- Council will meet for their regular monthly meeting on Wednesday August 24th at 6:30pm.
- Pastor Scott will be off on vacation Monday August 8th through Monday August 22nd. Pastor Ben McIntire will provide pulpit supply and lead worship on the 14th and 21st. Pastor Lisa Johnson of St John's Lutheran in Council Bluffs will be on call for Pastoral Emergencies.
- Families of incoming 7th-8th Graders. Pastor Scott will supply information regarding the upcoming Confirmation Program in late-August/early September. Please stay tuned and watch you email for additional information including Orientation opportunities. The Confirmation Program will kick off on Sunday September 11th, coinciding with Rally Sunday.
- Anyone interested in joining the ranks of worship volunteers in the roles of Usher, Reader, or Altar Guild? These important roles help the weekend worship services operate smoothly. Please contact Pastor Scott for more information or to volunteer. Also, if you are already on the rotational lists, please make sure that Tonya has your contact information. We are exploring ways to easily communicate reminders for individuals when their Sunday is approaching.
- Local individuals are invited to connect with us on Facebook in our group page "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.



Luke chapter 10 features 2 different stories, which are separated by the lectionary into different assigned gospel texts, but which also seem to partner up into a bit of a 2-sided theme. At the beginning of chapter 10, Jesus sends out the 70 in pairs, instructing them to go out into various communities to proclaim the message that the Kingdom has come near. Additionally, he informs them that they are to take no supplies along with them, but will be beholden to the hospitality which is shown to them.

Then at the end of chapter 10, the table seem to have turned...and now it is Jesus himself who is the recipient of hospitality when he enters the village of sisters Martha and Mary, and Martha welcomes him into her home. She gets busy with all the work of hosting...aka being hospitable to her guest...while Mary sits down to listen to Jesus, presumably sharing the same good news of the Kingdom of God.

While the images might only be implied, as I ponder on these two different moments, I picture those involved sitting around a table, simply sharing time together...being in relationship with one another, as one party extends a hospitable welcome and the other shares good news.

Now this mental image of sitting around a table reminds me of a picture that sits on the back of my desk, catching my eye from time to time. It is an example of an artform called Russian Religious Iconography. In this particular image, three angelic beings are sitting around the table. They look similar but have small differences if you begin to look closely. The intention of the original artist is to depict the three members of the Holy Trinity gathered around a table.

When I look at this image, I'm reminded of the teaching that we hold to here in the Lutheran tradition that we have one God in three persons...that we have a God who somehow exists in relationship. And as that relationship is depicted around a table, I'm reminded of the relationships that have formed in many different ways as I have been invited to sit around a table.

Think about the different tables that you sit around, whether literally or figuratively. I'm guessing that its been a mixture of situations. Sometimes perhaps you've been the host. Other times you've been the guest. But the common factor is the relationship that's present. Whether it's a new one that is only beginning to be established, or a long term/ongoing relationship that's been there for years. This is an example of how we, human beings, share in the divine image of the one who also exists in relationship.

But I think we can take this whole idea one step farther as well, as we consider one more table which we gather around, the table of Holy Communion. A table where God is the host, and all are invited. A table that is big enough for everyone, and where no one is turned away. A table where the host not only provides for the guests, but literally gives of himself to do so.

This is my body broken for you. This is my blood shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sins. Do this in remembrance of me. At the table of Christ, we are once again connected back with the one who desires to be truly and fully with us, no matter our circumstances. A table in which no matter where we have come from or how broken we might feel, somehow, we are all made whole.

In Christ
Pastor Scott

Offerings....

"Our gifts to God"

	Offerings	Attendance
June 26	\$ 2514.00	79
July 03	\$ 4186.02	42
July 10	\$ 1738.35	52
July 17	\$ 2901.04	49

As of May 31st:

YTD Regular Giving: \$52,077.43

YTD Budgeted Expenses: \$67,574.70

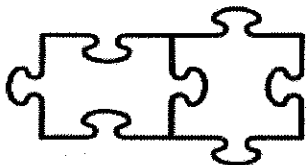
YTD Actual Expenses: \$63,247.81



Come One, Come All!
September 11th at 9 am

Connected by Faith

All children grades PK- 6th are invited to Rally Sunday for the kick off to the new Sunday School year. There will be games and activities, a chance to meet the staff! Please pass this on to anyone who you think may enjoy attending Underwood Lutheran where we are all Connected by Faith!



Opportunity for Giving

You may or may not be aware that over the last 2 months the Council has been in the process of obtaining several bids regarding the HVAC systems for the church and parsonage. There are 6 units at the church and 2 of those have reached their limits. The furnaces are over 40 years old and the AC units are over 20 years old. The overall consensus from the bids is that it is much more cost effective to replace than to try to continue to repair the units. The parsonage unit has been repaired several times over the past several years and is in the same boat.

The council and property committee have done their due diligence in researching and comparing the bids obtained. The final bid was then presented to the Endowment Committee for funding. The total project weighs in at \$30,000. We did receive a 10% discount by doing all 3 units at once. We have received the go ahead for the funding and the new installations will begin soon.

With the market being down the timing isn't ideal, but the pros and cons were weighed and it was decided to move forward. This presents us with an opportunity to help support our ministry in keeping our facility in good running order. Any donations received for this project would be put back into the Endowment funds.

Thank you in advance for giving this your consideration.

Tracy Shreeves
Council President

Worship Participants for August, 2022

If you are unable to participate as scheduled, please call the office-566-2257

Piano/Organist	Aug. 07	Sonya Schiphoff
	Aug. 14	Nancy Dose
	Aug. 21	Judy Pingel
	Aug. 28	Arla Clausen
Acolytes	Aug. 07	TBD
	Aug. 14	TBD
	Aug. 21	TBD
	Aug. 28	TBD
Lectors	Aug. 07	Jay Aackland
	Aug. 14	Amber Chase
	Aug. 21	Nancy Dose
	Aug. 28	Nancy Geise
Ushers	Aug. 07	James and Marlene Merdinger
	Aug. 14	Greg and Sandy Redshaw
	Aug. 21	LaVern Leaders and Lynn Leaders
	Aug. 28	Bob Pingel and Tony Chase


ALTAR GUILD: Carol Bertelsen and Becky Pedersen

DEACON: Joanne Mitchell

August

August 2022

Calendar

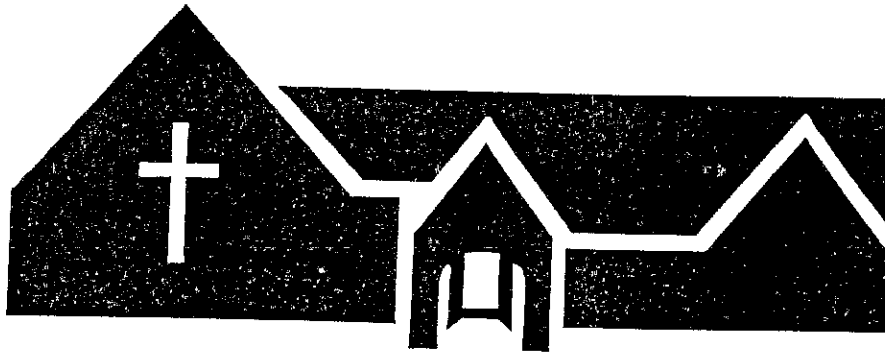
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Jul 31 9:30 AM Worship Service	Aug 1	2	3	4	5	6
7 9:30 AM Worship Service/	8	9	10	11	12	13
14 9:30 AM Worship Service	15	16	17	18	19	20
21 9:30 AM Worship Service/	22	23	24 6:30 PM  Council Meetr	25	26	27
28 9:30 AM Worship Service	29	30	31	Sep 1	2	3

"THE MESSENGER"
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