

# *The Messenger*

Underwood Lutheran Church

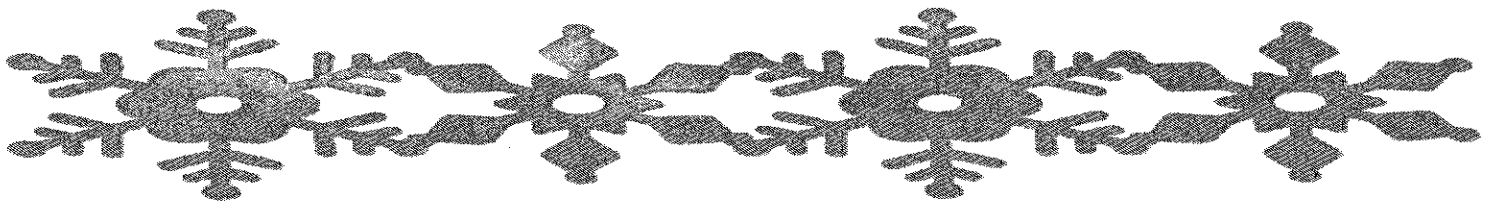
**JANUARY, 2018**

Pastor Scott Dalen

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

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Editor, Secretary – Tonya Mayer – 566-9823  
Church Phone # - 566-2257  
e-mail address: [underwoodlutheran@q.com](mailto:underwoodlutheran@q.com)

SUNDY SCHOOL-CONFIRMATION-ADULT BIBLE STUDY @ 9:00 AM  
WORSHIP SERVICE @10:15 AM



- High School will meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, and 31<sup>st</sup>.
  - Adult Study of the Small Catechism will resume on Wednesday January 10<sup>th</sup>. Our next focus will be on the Lord's Prayer. We will meet on the 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, and 31<sup>st</sup>. There will not be class on either the 3<sup>rd</sup> or the 24<sup>th</sup>. Discussion begins at 6pm and everyone is welcome to join us.
  - The Annual Meeting of the congregation will be held on Sunday January 21<sup>st</sup> following Worship. Please try to have all items for the Annual Report turned into the office by Saturday the 6<sup>th</sup> if at all possible.
  - Sunday morning Education will resume on January 7<sup>th</sup>.
  - 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 posts his sermons in both text and audio format each week. Look for his posts to be highlighted on Facebook as well as the church website. Pastor Scott also posts a weekly gospel discussion video, called Sermon Braindump at <http://www.youtube.com/user/sanchodaleone>



Happy New Year everyone.

I write this New Year's greeting, and I find myself chuckling, as my mind is swirling in the midst of several different seasons. I sit down to write this article on December 21<sup>st</sup>, and so its still Advent for a few more days. Likewise, I'm pondering on my Christmas Eve sermon. I've also had my mind in January for newsletter items, and with it thinking about the season of Epiphany.

But perhaps even more fitting, my brain is swirling with seasonal thoughts because of a calendar. Every year up to this point, the church has received calendars which lay out the various church seasons Sunday by Sunday. But this year the organization that has sent them discontinued this practice, and so I have spent the past few minutes recording on my new "non-liturgically minded" calendar the various Sunday's of the first half of 2018, covering Epiphany, Transfiguration, Lent, Holy Week, Easter, all the way up to the early weeks of Pentecost in late May and June.

Now, as you might be aware, while I do occasionally look ahead at what's coming up, for the most part my thoughts tend to dwell on what's right in front of me. And yet, having finding myself with one foot in quite a few different seasons (and now envisioning a Liturgically themed game of Twister), I'm wondering what God has in store for this new year.

You've often heard me speak about what's going on outside these 4 walls. I wonder, often aloud, of just what you as follows of Christ see God up to out there in the world during the other 6 days and 23 odd hours of the week. I believe God is up to something all the time...and the opportunity is there for us to be a part of it.

And yet, in our lives as Christ-followers, there are also times when what God is up to is aimed at us. Things happen around us. We encounter people or situations that God is using to shape our lives, something called Sanctification. Sometimes these events are joyous. Sometimes they are earth-shatteringly awful. And yet we are continuously shaped by them.

And so I'll ask the question once more. What's God been up to in and around your life? I want to encourage you to spend some time thinking on this, because maybe, just maybe, your story is one to share that will also encourage the faith life of someone else. You might recall that Lent of 2017 featured the stories of faith from several individuals from our congregation. They shared stories of people and in some cases events that had shaped them. Stories of how they came to be the person that they are today.

This year we'll be doing something quite similar. Do you have a story to share? A story of a way that you have seen God active in and around your life? I'm pretty sure we all have stories like this. Now would you be willing to share it with our congregation. If so, please let me know. Likewise, if you are asked to do this, I hope you will strongly consider doing so. Our stories are a wonderful gift to the faith of one another.

In Christ,  
Pastor Scott

Thank  
you

Thank you to everyone who donated gifts to the families for Christmas. It was very successful and it took 2 vehicles to deliver all the packages to Heartland Family Services. I'm sure the gifts were much appreciated!

Lenten Services will begin on Ash Wednesday, February 14th. The Women's Executive Board will be serving casseroles. Martha Circle will serve dinner on February 21st and Telescope Circle will serve on February 28th. It will be here before you know it! Please come and enjoy the fellowship & good food.



The 2018 Church offering envelopes are available for pickup in the Narthex. The envelopes are sorted in order by last name. If we accidentally omitted your name, or if you find an error, please contact either Michael or Darlene Shelton.

## GREAT NEWS!

Do you have an Underwood Lutheran Church cookbook published in 1971? This book is fondly referred to as "the RED cookbook".

If your book looks like so many of ours, tattered, stained, pages falling out (in other words--well used). They have been reprinted.

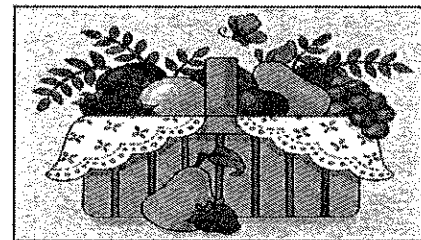
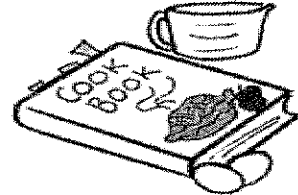
You may contact any of the committee members to place your order:

Nancy Geise, phone (712) 322-3010, 24202 Road L-34, Underwood, IA 51576

Nadine Trede, phone (712) 566-2743, 109 First Ave., Underwood, IA 51576

Sandy Redshaw, phone (712) 566-9574, 106 Faith Ave. Underwood, IA 51576

Kathy Darrington, phone (712) 566-2119, 24329 - 272 St., Underwood, IA 51576



*The Food Pantry Has Moved  
to Minden United Church of Christ*

*New volunteers are needed.  
Please contact Mark & Gerri Bjorling*

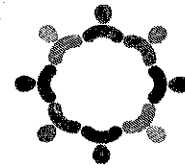
*bjorlingm@aol.com*

*402-968-5357*



Thanks to those who greeted in the month of December.

The "Choraleers"  
Sunday School



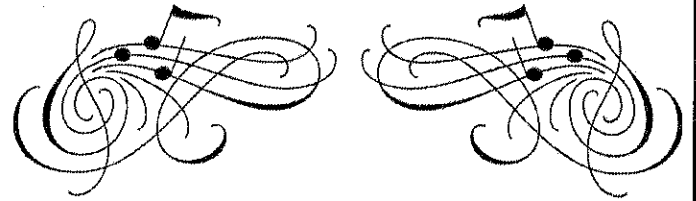
## WOMEN'S CIRCLE

Telescope Circle will meet at the church at 1:30 on January 11<sup>th</sup>. All host.

Martha Circle will meet on January 12<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 pm, at the home of Linda Jennings.

## Council Meeting

The council meeting will be January 10th at 7:00 pm.



## Special Music

Thank you to the following people for special music for the month of December.

Choraleers  
Sunday School children

## Offerings....

*"Our gifts to God"*

	Offerings	Attendance
Nov. 19	\$ 2522.81	131
Nov. 26	\$ 1362.00	73
Dec. 03	\$ 3848.65	108
Dec. 10	\$ 2914.00	151
Dec. 17	\$ 2476.00	182

# Wanted:

One amazing human being

Strong in heart, generous in spirit.

Love kids? Think their faith is important? So do we. Underwood Lutheran is seeking an individual to work part-time in coordinating aspects of Sunday School, Jr High, and Vacation Bible School. You can find a full job-description on our website: [underwoodlutheran.org](http://underwoodlutheran.org)



## January 2018

**Bethany Christmas Store Update-** Thank you for filling the shelves and tables for the Annual Bethany Christmas Store. Your generosity was overwhelming!! The residents enjoyed "shopping" for their loved ones for the holidays. We also want to extend our thanks to the Volunteers who came to help the residents shop and wrap the gifts. We are appreciative of all of you!

We've had some inquiries already from individuals regarding donations for next year. Many are wanting to take advantage of after Christmas and January Sales. We accept donations all year long for the Christmas Store. We have the availability to store the items during the year. Please feel free to drop off items at the Front Desk at BLH anytime. Please be sure to let them know you are dropping off items for the Christmas Store. Thank you again for your donations and support.

**Thank you Christmas Carolers and Visitors-** We want to extend a big "THANK YOU" for the gift of music heard through the halls and Dining Rooms at BLH and BH in December. The familiar tradition of caroling is a great memory for many of our residents and tenants. Thank you for taking time to remember Bethany with your gift of holiday music.

**Bethany Annual Meeting-** The Annual Meeting of Bethany Lutheran Home will be held on Sunday, January 7th, 2018 at 2:00 p.m. in the Skyrise Dining Room (Upper Dining Room) at Bethany, 7 Elliott Street. All Sponsoring Congregation Delegates are encouraged to attend. Visitors are also welcome. The meeting will include various department reports, financial report and election of Board Members for 2018. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Peggy Karstens at Bethany Lutheran Home 712-328-9500. ***In the event of inclement weather or our need to postpone the meeting due to flu, please contact Bethany at 712-328-9500 and/or tune to your local television station if appropriate, before heading to Bethany.***

**Bethany Auxiliary Meeting-**The Quarterly meeting of the Bethany Auxiliary will be held on Monday, January 8<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m. in the Dining Room at Bethany Lutheran Home. St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Treynor is the host. The meeting will include the installation of new officers, discussion of the upcoming bake sale and a highlights from the Christmas Store and other activities. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact your church Key Lady or Diane Carlon at 712-329-5451.

**Bethany Heights Apartments Available-** Bethany Heights Senior Living Community has several apartments available for seniors. Do you know someone or perhaps even you, who would enjoy the benefits of living in a senior community in the New Year? Maybe someone interested in living independently or having the benefits of an assisted living community? Bethany Heights offers both independent and assisted living services in apartments ranging in sizes from a Studio to Two Bedroom/Two bathroom. As an individual's needs increase, services are delivered directly to your apartment. Something unique to the area. We'd love for you to schedule a visit. Small pets are welcome. For more information or to set up a visit please contact Paula Fandry at Bethany Heights 712-328-8228.

## ULC Church Council Meeting 11-9-17

Members Present: Michael Johnson, Roger Hemmingson, Pastor Scott Dalen, Greg Redshaw, Dick Miller, Bob Pingel, Jeff Poggensee, Alex Schiphoff

Others Present: Linda Merdinger

Not Present: Jessica Hultquist, Mike Shelton, Carol Yeaton

Michael Johnson called the meeting to order

Devotions were led by Pastor Scott

**Secretary's Report:** Bob moved to accept the secretary's report for the October Council Meeting. Dick seconded, Motion Carried.

**Financial Report:** Linda Merdinger distributed the financial reports. She commented that the incoming final farm payment is sitting in the general fund, listed in the Farm Benefit Transactions form awaiting instructions. Discussion included leaving the final payment in the general fund until the annual meeting, when the congregation can approve the potential transfer into the endowment fund. Further discussion stated that the Endowment committee should meet and give input on how to proceed. However, knowing that the annual meeting is still approximately 3 months away, it is the feeling of the council that we should explore a short-term option, likely a CD. Dick proposed contacting Ed Jones regarding CD's and then report back to the council via email communication.

Linda also mentioned a small increase in the water bill for both the church building as well as the parsonage.

Jeff moved to accept the financial report as presented, Greg seconded; motion carried.

Greg discussed the lien release fee \$1128.00 needed to finalize the transfer fee. He moved to approve this amount, which will be listed on the Farm Benefit Transactions form, Jeff seconded. Motion carried. Linda will prep the check and Greg will deliver it to complete the process.

### **Pastor's Report:**

#### Facility Issues

- Cleaning Schedule for Thanksgiving Week, Merry Maids is slated for Wed 22<sup>nd</sup>
- Secretary Computer Tower
  - Basic Models \$350-400 Range
  - Microsoft Office Software Needed, approximately \$200 for Business version

#### Parish Education Matters

#### Calendar Matters

- Pr Ben McIntire is confirmed for Sunday November 26<sup>th</sup>
- Continuing Education Opportunity January 24-26<sup>th</sup> Faith and Science  
\$220 (discount for early registration) + Hotel (2 nights) and Mileage

### Congregational Life

-Cross Generational Committee is reviewing new alternatives to find candidates

### Pastor Acts

-Regular Visitation Schedule

-197 Communed (2 Communion Weeks Via Green Slips)

-October 17<sup>th</sup> 107 of 115

-November 5<sup>th</sup> 90 of 114

-Funeral Service for Lynn Bertelsen (Non-member) Oct 14<sup>th</sup>

-New Members Accepted Into Congregation Oct 29<sup>th</sup>

-Andy and Kari Brown, Kennady (daughter Kinsley is a baptized member)

-Robin Leaders

-Funeral Service for Marcia Hastings November 8<sup>th</sup> (different pastor presided)

### **Committee Reports:**

#### Operations:

The committee met to put together the proposed budget for 2018, which Linda sent out. The proposed budgetary amount is \$171,732 compared to \$146,336 in 2017. Approximately \$17,000 is listed under Faith Formation Coordinator, which is approved by the congregation, though not yet filled. Council members will review the proposed budget for approval in December.

The committee has also been working on finalizing the farm sale, as earlier noted.

#### Education:

Kathy has Christmas Program for the Sunday School slated for December 17<sup>th</sup>. Pastor is working with Jr High Students for that program as well.

#### Property:

Insurance Claim-The adjuster was here on Monday November 6<sup>th</sup>, along with Jeremy Hultquist, Mike, and Rodger. Rodger commented, that while we have not received the report back from the adjuster and the insurance company, the adjuster expected that the claim would be approved. He also assessed the parsonage and garage roofs.

The work day occurred on October 28<sup>th</sup>, with several projects completed.

#### Life Committee:

Poinsettia orders are in process through this Sunday. Christmas Tree/Decorating will be the afternoon of Sunday November 26<sup>th</sup>.

### **Old Business:**

Nothing to Report

**New Business:**

Curtis family renting the basement Saturday Dec 9<sup>th</sup>. Bob moved to approve, Dick seconded, motion carried.

Nomination Committee: Dick, Alex, Mike Shelton, and Greg are going off. A few individuals have already been approached, and are possibilities.

Harvest Festival. The date of the festival is set for Sunday Dec 3<sup>rd</sup>. The giving for the day will be split 50/50. The Harvest Festival funds will be designated towards Church Maintenance, with the intention being the pending roof repair. Dick moved to follow this plan, Greg seconded. Motion carried. Jeff will pick up chicken, furnished by the congregation. Members will be encouraged to bring sides/potluck style.

Mike Shelton received notice from Vanco about the need for a Financial Information Security Policy. He adapted a sample policy, which has been presented to for approval. Roger moved to approve the policy as presented, Greg seconded. Motion carried. Additionally, Pastor Scott will purchase a shredder for the usage in the office.

The next council meeting will be December 13<sup>th</sup>.

Pastor Scott moved by, seconded by Alex to adjourn the meeting; motion carried.

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer

Respectfully Submitted,

Pastor Scott Dalen

-Substituting for Jessica Hultquist, Council Secretary



# Worship Participants for January, 2018

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

ORGANISTS	Jan. 07	Judy Pingel	COMMUNION
	Jan. 14	Nancy Dose	
	Jan. 21	Judy Pingel	COMMUNION
	Jan. 28	Nancy Dose	
ACOLYTES	Jan. 07	Jadynn McDonald	COMMUNION
	Jan. 14	Quentin Wollan	COMMUNION
	Jan. 21	Hannah Wulff	
	Jan. 28	Jack Dalen	
LECTORS	Jan. 07	Carol Urban	COMMUNION
	Jan. 14	Jeremy Hultquist	COMMUNION
	Jan. 21	Emmma Wulff	
	Jan. 28	Nancy Dose	
USHERS	Jan. 07	Bill and Libby Shelton	COMMUNION
	Jan. 14	Phil Feller and Bob Pingel	COMMUNION
	Jan. 21	J.W. and Joyce Tiarks	
	Jan. 28	Jay Ackland and Arlon Bertelsen	
GREETERS	Jan. 07	Jeff and Tracy Shreeves	COMMUNION
	Jan. 14	Julie Larsen, Joyce Tiarks, Lois Johnson	COMMUNION
	Jan. 21	Alex and Sonya Schiphoff	
	Jan. 28	Gary and Jan Ehrens, Weta Butterfield	
SPECIAL MUSIC	Jan. 07		COMMUNION
	Jan. 14		COMMUNION
	Jan. 21		
	Jan. 28		

ALTAR GUILD: Sue Hemmingsen and Tracy Shreeves  
CARRYING ELEMENTS: James and Marlene Merdinger  
DEACON:



January 2018						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
12/31 Pastor Scott / Vacation 10:15 AM Worship Service	1/1	2	3 7:00 PM High School Group	4	5	6
7 9:00 AM Sunday School/Confirmation/Adult Forum 10:15 AM Worship Service/Holy Communion	8	9	10 6:00 PM Adult Bible Study 7:00 PM Council Meeting	11 1:30 PM Telescope Circle	12 2:00 PM Martha Circle	13
14 9:00 AM Sunday School/Confirmation/Adult Forum 10:15 AM Worship Service	15	16	17 6:00 PM Adult Bible Study 7:00 PM High School Group	18	19	20
21 9:00 AM Sunday School/Confirmation/Adult Forum 10:15 AM Worship Service/ Holy Communion 11:30 AM Annual Meeting	22	23	24	25	26	27
28 9:00 AM Sunday School/Confirmation/Adult Forum 10:15 AM Worship Service	29	30	31 6:00 PM Adult Bible Study 7:00 PM High School Group	2/1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10

# Books of the Bible

## Old Testament

W W B X R G N N M T X H N G M W A R L X D R  
 R V H A I N A H P E Z B A U Q T M W R S K E  
 1 H Q G M M V P S A L M S G M W O C M I U H  
 C L N B N Z E C H A R I A H G B S C K S K T  
 H E I S E G D U J Y D X 2 B L A E D R E K S  
 R U S M H Q N I N H E H T K E W I R N N A E  
 O M A N V N H J G O U P 1 K I N G S S E B V  
 N A I M J C O R B R T Y D P N N T H A G A X  
 I S A G A S H A N T E H K Z A F G E R K H C  
 C 1 H L H L D N D N R C Z X D Y S S L M L K  
 L B A U X I S O N G O F S O L O M O N 2 M G  
 E M A C A A R Z E M N D V N H K F R C K L K  
 S G K H N R K N N M O P R P T M B H L N S Y  
 W S N O I T A T N E M A L P R M R E N U V J  
 D B K H A N O J Q J Y H X X B O U J D P E P  
 F Q L E V I T I C U S T A O N M V O O R X N  
 Z H R E N Y H T M M M V J I A B X E E E Y Q  
 T H A P I Y V K U T B X C S M E R M R X L N  
 C M T C G K D C H L H L 2 V M E I P T B K T  
 Q Y L U I G E K A L E R Q C V A H V X X S T  
 R Z C T R M L Z N S F K X N H W J E C K K X  
 J N J F E C C L E S I A S T E S R W N T H K

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1 Chronicles

1 Kings

1 Samuel

2 Chronicles

2 Kings

2 Samuel

Amos

Daniel

Deuteronomy

Ecclesiastes

Esther

Exodus

Ezekiel

Ezra

Genesis

Habakkuk

Haggai

Hosea

Isaiah

Jeremiah

Job

Joel

Jonah

Joshua

Judges

Lamentations

Leviticus

Malachi

Micah

Nahum

Nehemiah

Numbers

Obadiah

Proverbs

Psalms

Ruth

Song of Solomon

Zechariah

Zephaniah

"THE MESSENGER"  
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January