

The Messenger

Underwood Lutheran Church

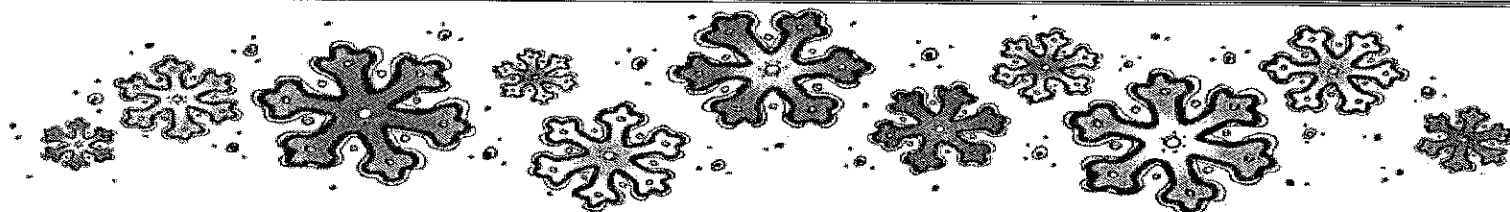
January, 2019

Pastor Scott Dalen

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

Congregational President – Jessica Hultquist – 402-651-4034
Editor, Secretary – Tonya Mayer – 566-9823
Church Phone # - 566-2257
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SUNDY SCHOOL-CONFIRMATION-ADULT BIBLE STUDY 9:00 am
WORSHIP SERVICE @10:15 AM



- Wednesday evening Bible Study will plan to meet each week with the exception of January 2nd.
 - High School will meet on the 16th and 30th, but not on the 2nd as the students will still be on Christmas Break.
 - Sunday Morning Education will resume on January 6th with Sunday School, Confirmation, and Adult Forum.
 - The season of Lent is rapidly approaching and will begin with Ash Wednesday in early March. We will, once again, be hearing individuals sharing stories of faith and how they have witnessed God at work in their lives. If you are interested in sharing your story this year, please contact Pastor Scott.
 - The Annual Meeting of the Congregation will be held on January 27th. A light lunch will be provided with the meeting following worship. If you are a voting member, please plan to attend.
 - Confirmation mentors and students. Remember to set up times to meet together for your mentoring sessions. This is a requirement for everyone, but especially important for the 8th grade students. These sessions need to be completed prior to Confirmation Day in late April.
 - 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. It happened again...we all blinked and another year has come and gone. As I ponder on this, I wonder how all of you would categorize 2018 in retrospect. Did you accomplish the things that you expected? Did you travel? Were there surprises, good or bad? Or did things shake out totally unexpected, and perhaps even painful? I know as I cycle through all of you in my mind, that the story of your year is quite different from the next individual or family. I know that some of you would say that this has been a good year. Other's not so much.

Make no mistake, I feel very blessed to have this knowledge. Over the course of the past five and a half years, many of you have invited me into incredible moments. Some have been wonderful and some have been very painful, some devastating. And I am allowed to share them with you because of my role as pastor.

Now in a moment of my own reflection, I'm thinking back to the trip that my wife and I took to the Holy Land back in March. One of the spots that we visited is called the Shepherds Field, and is considered to be the location where the angel of the Lord appeared to the shepherds to announce the birth of Jesus (Luke 2). There is a mural in this location that shows this scene...with two shepherds hunkered down on the ground just outside a small cave where their flock of sheep are lying.

That image has often struck me as significant, to see these individuals right there alongside the ones they've been entrusted to care for...you might even say that they are living life right alongside them. And the fact that I find even more humbling and significant, is the Arabic word for shepherd...Pastor.

It goes without saying that one of the most important aspects of my call as pastor is to care for you, the sheep of this congregation. But I also know the importance of equipping each of you to do the ministry of the kingdom. Recently I got to see this first hand. Following one of the many funeral services that our community has experienced in recent memory, I witnessed something that touched me very deeply.

I was standing nearby to the individual who had just lose their spouse...and over the course of a couple minutes about 5 or 6 different members of our congregation approached him to offer words of encouragement, words of condolence, but most importantly a hug. Each one of those people were ministering to him in the midst of his grief. And I was able to just stand there and watch it happen.

This is the calling that we share. We are called to be the hands and feet of Christ in the world. We are called to care for those who are hurting and to comfort the afflicted. And I offer a humble thank you for every time that I see one of you carry that out, whether you realize you're doing it or not. May we all seek to live out this calling, even just a little bit, each and every day in this New Year.

In Christ
Pastor Scott

Underwood Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes

November 14, 2018

Members Present: Jessica Hultquist, Bob Pingel, Erik Pedersen, Bill Shelton, Jeff Poggensee, Carol Yeaton, Rhonda Johnson, Lynn Leaders

Others Present: Linda Merdinger

Absent: Roger Hemmingsen

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm by council president, Jessica Hultquist.

Pastor Scott Dalen opened the meeting with prayer.

Financial Matters: The monthly financial reports were presented as provided by Linda prior to her departure. Jeff moved to approve the minutes October report, Pastor seconded; motion carried.

Secretaries Report: Minutes were presented from the October meeting. Jeff moved to approve the minutes along with the amended September report, Erik seconded; motion carried.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Scott presented his report for the month including the following.

Facility Issues

- Merry Maids, Thanksgiving week cleaning moved to Wednesday the 22nd.
- Evidence of mole activity, both in church and parsonage yards.
- Sign display issues, a patch solution is in process.

Parish Education Matters

Calendar Matters

- Peterson funeral on-site Monday Nov 19th.
- Pr Ben McIntire is confirmed for Dec 30th and Feb 3rd.

Congregational Life

- Exploring options for online engagement with Congregation.
 - Discussion on how individuals are/aren't connected to the Congregation online
 - Education options
 - Giving options in addition to Vanco
 - Text donations (Vanco, PushPay, others?)
 - Debit/credit card reader in church?
- FaithSound, regional high school gospel choir based in Harlan, will be joining us and helping lead worship March 17th.

Pastoral Acts

- Regular visitation schedule
- End of life care for several individuals, both members and non-members
- Baptism for Breckin Ridder Oct 28th.
- Baptism for Bob Goodman and Adam Goodman pending, will be held privately.
- New members accepted Nov 11th
 - Jeff and Jill Tetan, Rachel and Zachary (Callan accepted by baptism in Sept.)
- 139 communed (2 Communion weeks, via green slips)
 - Oct 21st 40 of 51 (Roast Beef Dinner)

Committee Reports:

Operations

Getting setup for Harvest Festival.

Property

No report.

Education

Kim having Sunday School do lessons once a month together as a large group.

Life

Pictures are being wrapped up. A church roster needs to be submitted soon. Talking about cleaning the roll soon.

Live poinsettias will not be ordered this year. Silk poinsettias will be ordered for decoration purposes.

Endowment

Everything is established with final farm payment and upcoming Hastings Estate.

Old Business:

Annual meeting scheduled for January 27th. Soup and sandwiches will be provided.

Brian Leaders handling snow removal.

Mowing for next year still needs to be committed.

New Business:

Motioned by Michael to withhold payments of account lines 101-104 of benevolence payments until general account balance reaches a minimum balance of \$11,000; which was the beginning balance at the start of the year to try and balance the budget. Seconded by Bill. Motion carried.

Motioned by Jeff to designate Harvest Festival giving toward general account. Seconded by Bob. Motion carried.

The next council meeting will be December 12th.

Lynn moved to adjourn, Jeff seconded; motion carried.

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted

Pastor Scott Dalen



Thanks to those who greeted in the month of
December.

Lea Voss and Courtney Sampson
The Choraleers



Telescope Circle - TBD

Martha Circle - TBD

Council Meeting

The council meeting will be January 9th at
7:00 pm.



Offerings....

"Our gifts to God"

	Offerings	Attendance
Nov. 25	\$ 730.00	42
Dec. 02		no service
Dec. 09	\$ 4209.30	150
Dec. 16	\$ 2786.00	156
Dec. 23	\$ 2319.00	64
Dec. 24	\$ 1251.00	149
Dec. 24	\$ 838.00	68

2019 Offering Envelopes

Are now available and are located on the table in the Narthex. If we mistakenly omitted yours, or if you have never had any and would like envelopes, please contact us. Also if there are and spelling or address mistakes, please let us know.

Thank you, Mike & Darlene Shelton

Worship Participants for January, 2019

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

ORGANISTS	Jan. 06	Judy Pingel	COMMUNION
	Jan. 13	Nancy Dose	
	Jan. 20	Judy Pingel	COMMUNION
	Jan. 27	Nancy Dose	
ACOLYTES	Jan. 06	Danny Stein	COMMUNION
	Jan. 13	Colin VanTilburg	
	Jan. 20	Jadynn McDonald	COMMUNION
	Jan. 27	Quentin Wollan	
LECTORS	Jan. 06	Jessica Hultquist	COMMUNION
	Jan. 13	Courtney Sampson	
	Jan. 20	Jay Ackland	COMMUNION
	Jan. 27	Brian Leaders	
USHERS	Jan. 06	Bob Dose and Dick Miller	COMMUNION
	Jan. 13	Gary Leaders and Mark Torneten	
	Jan. 20	LaVern Leaders and Lynn Leaders	COMMUNION
	Jan. 27	Gary and Jan Ehrens	
GREETERS	Jan. 06		COMMUNION
	Jan. 13		
	Jan. 20	Jeff and Chris Privia	COMMUNION
	Jan. 27		
SPECIAL MUSIC	Jan. 06		COMMUNION
	Jan. 13		
	Jan. 20		COMMUNION
	Jan. 27		

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



January 2019						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1/1 Office Closed	2	3	4	5
6 9:00 AM Sunday School/Confirmation/Adult Study 10:15 AM Worship Service / Holy Communion	7	8	9 6:00 PM Bible Study 7:00 PM Council Meeting	10 1:30 PM Telescope Circle	11 2:00 PM Martha Circle	12
13 9:00 AM Sunday School/Confirmation/Adult Study 10:15 AM Worship Service	14	15	16 6:00 PM Bible Study 7:00 PM High School Group	17	18	19 9:00 AM Basement Rented
20 9:00 AM Sunday School/Confirmation/Adult Study 10:15 AM Worship Service/Holy Communion	21	22	23 6:00 PM Bible Study	24	25	26
27 9:00 AM Sunday School/Confirmation/Adult Study 10:15 AM Worship Service 11:30 AM Annual Meeting	28	29	30 6:00 PM Bible Study 7:00 PM High School Group	31		

"THE MESSENGER"
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Underwood, IA 51576-0009



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