

# The Messenger

## Underwood Lutheran Church

### July, 2018

Pastor Scott Dalen

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

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SUNDY SCHOOL-CONFIRMATION-ADULT BIBLE STUDY on Summer Break  
WORSHIP SERVICE @9:30 AM

- High School will meet only meet on the 18<sup>th</sup>. We will not meet on the 4<sup>th</sup> due to the holiday.
  - Wednesday evening Bible Study of Revelation will meet on the 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, and 25<sup>th</sup>. Conversation begins at 6:00pm. A reminder that with the busy nature of the summer season, please pay attention to announcements regarding changes on the church website and/or Facebook.
  - Vacation Bible School is happening July 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>. There will be a program/dinner to celebrate the conclusion of the program the evening of the 12<sup>th</sup>.
  - July's free Friday night movie will be held on July 20<sup>th</sup>. Start time is approximately 9:00pm.
  - Our annual worship service at Arrowhead Park will be on Sunday July 22<sup>nd</sup> at the normal starting time of 9:30am. A potluck meal will be shared following worship.
  - July will feature a change in our normal schedule of Holy Communion. There will NOT be Communion held the first Sunday of the month, which falls on July 1<sup>st</sup>. We will celebrate Communion on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays, the 8<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>. We will also celebrate Communion at our Arrowhead worship on the 22<sup>nd</sup>.
  - Pastor Scott will begin vacation on Monday July 30<sup>th</sup> and will be gone the first two weeks of August. Pastor Jon Benson will be on call in his absence.
  - 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>



FROM THE  
PASTOR'S DESK

"I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." John 13:34-35

I have to admit something to you. In the past few days, I have found myself agonizing over a newsletter article. Typically when it comes time to sit down and prep my article, it's a fairly straight-forward deal. If I have some specific topic in mind I go with that. Sometimes I write fluff. But this one is different.

I've been struggling with what to say regarding recent headlines and discussion centering on immigration and the separation of families. And believe me when I say I've struggled. I've written draft after draft. I've sent them off to colleagues to review. And I've found no peace whatsoever in what I've tried to say.

I have my opinions about what is going on. I've had some pretty heated personal responses to the statements made by public figures...and in every version of this article I've written, no matter how hard I've tried to soften it, I've come out all guns blazing. But this is a mistake on my part. This is what the Apostle Paul is talking about in the opening verses of 1 Corinthians 13 (yes the love chapter) when he says that words without love sound like a noisy gong or clanging cymbal. And honestly, I care too much about the relationships that I hold with you as pastor to burn bridges.

And so, in the end, I decided to sit down and simply share an honest look into the heart of this particular pastor in this particular situation. I see images and hear stories of young children and babies separated from their families and it hurts my heart. I want to rage and yell, but that's not loving on my part. And Jesus says that we will be known by our love. I feel outraged in one moment, and convicted by that outrage in the next. I see comments and articles on both sides of the coin, and I don't know how to respond.

I can't help but think this is life...because life is messy. Life in the world that we all share is mixed up and bumpy. What seems utterly clear in one moment can get really murky in the next. And I hope, I really hope, that we are all trying to do the best that we can.

So what I will do is this. I will remind you that my door is open. Yes I have opinions. Yes I have thoughts on what the scriptures have to say about this. And yes I am willing to sit and have conversations with you if that's what you desire. Because as the called pastor of this

congregation, I am called to speak out for the powerless. I am also called to teach the scriptures in love for the people I have been called to shepherd.

I can point us towards denominational resources aimed at advocacy. They are there, and we can engage with them. I can also encourage you to contact your legislators. And I can encourage you to use your voice and whatever other gifts and talents that God has blessed you with to become involved. But as you do so, please remember that those who lie on the other side of the line from you are still people of worth. We have all been made bearing the divine image of God, and we are all beloved children of God. That's a distinction given to every single person on this planet. We are all neighbors of one kind or another. Let us remember that Jesus commanded us to love our neighbors, and that the law hinges upon this command.

Above all else, pray. I'm not talking about the mindless "thoughts and prayers" that we hear about when tragedy strikes. I mean actually pray, because I believe that we have a God who does listen to our prayers. Pray for those in positions of leadership that they can make wise decisions that will benefit those who are affected. Pray for those in jobs that place them in the midst of this situation on our border. Pray for those individuals and families who find themselves in the midst of turmoil because their personal situation has led them to this point. And especially, pray for those who are innocent and powerless, that somehow they might be comforted.

The ELCA and the Lutheran Church in general has a long history of coming alongside and advocating for those in need, particularly in terms of immigration, and I for one am proud to be connected with this history. I'll close this article with a portion of a joint-statement recently issued by the ELCA Presiding Bishop Eaton along with other ecumenical faith-leaders on this matter:

*We affirm the family as a foundational societal structure to support human community and understand the household as an estate blessed by God. The security of the family provides critical mental, physical and emotional support to the development and wellbeing of children. Our congregations and agencies serve many migrant families that have recently arrived in the United States. Leaving their communities is often the only option they have to provide safety for their children and protect them from harm. Tearing children away from parents who have made a dangerous journey to provide a safe and sufficient life for them is unnecessarily cruel and detrimental to the well-being of parents and children.*

In Christ,  
Pastor Scott

## **Underwood Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes May 9, 2018**

**Members present:** Jessica Hultquist, Michael Johnson, Bob Pingel, Erik Pedersen, Rhonda Johnson, Roger Hemmingsen, Jeff Poggensee, Lynn Leaders, Bill Shelton

**Others Present:**

**Absent:** Carol Yeaton

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 by council president, Jessica Hultquist.

### **Secretary's Report:**

Moved by Pastor and seconded by Erik Pedersen to approve the 4/11/18 council meeting minutes. Motion carried.

**Financial Reports:** Linda Merdinger presented the financial reports electronically. Moved by Bob Pingel and seconded by Bill Shelton to approve the financial report. Motion carried.

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

Facility Issues

- Front steps/landscaping of parsonage

Parish Education Matters

- 6<sup>th</sup> grader starting confirmation (Nick Hackett) this fall.
- Camper reimbursement being paid to family direct that paid camp in full.

Calendar Matters

- Moved by Jeff seconded by Bob to extend church website domain for 5 years.
- Website host (Weebly) is being bought by alternate company (Square)
  - Does not appear that this will affect our business
- Registration complete for synod assembly for Pastor and delegates
  - Includes hotel reservation for 1 night
  - Not planning on staying for Sunday session
- Vacation week of June 25<sup>th</sup>-July 1<sup>st</sup>
  - Marietta Nelson-Bittle tentatively slated for pulpit supply
  - Discussion with Bishop of communion will be alright

Congregational Life

- Updating church directory
- New member class held April 25<sup>th</sup>
  - Kimberly Madsen, accepted into congregation May 6<sup>th</sup>

Pastoral Acts

- Regular visitation schedule
- 192 Communed (2 communion weeks, green slips)
  - April 15<sup>th</sup> 83 of 95
  - May 6<sup>th</sup> 109 of 161

- Affirmation of baptism April 24<sup>th</sup>  
Brandy May, Jackson Dalen, Ellie Hackett, Sydney Leaders
- Funeral service Donald "Moe" Larson, May 9<sup>th</sup> (non-member)

**Committee Reports:**

Property

License for elevator received. Sump pump replaced for elevator pit.

Education

Discussed gift for confirmands and Sunday school superintendent.  
Discussed using budgeted dollars for confirmation robes.

Life

Arrowhead service planned for July 22<sup>nd</sup>.  
Lutheran night at Werner Park June 5<sup>th</sup>, sign up due by May 20<sup>th</sup>.

Operations

No report

**Old Business:**

Moved by Bob Pingel and seconded to renew principal of CDs to best available rate CD and put the interest into the general fund. Motion carried.

Discussion about who is able to work with Edward Jones accounts. Finding out who is currently authorized to update at next meeting.

Unanimous recommended from Pastor and Cross Generation Committee to hire Kim Madsen for the Faith Formation Coordinator position. Discussed salary range offering. Motion by Pastor and seconded by Bob Pingel to offer Kim Madsen the Faith Formation Coordinator position.

**New Business:**

Comment to update budget in bulletin to current year's budget and to proofread bulletin inserts better.

The next council meeting will be held June 13, 2018.

Moved by Bill Shelton and seconded by Erik Pedersen to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

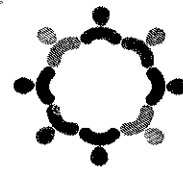
The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,  
Michael Johnson  
Underwood Lutheran Church Council Secretary



Thanks to those who greeted in the month of June.

LaVern and Janet Leaders  
Shirley, Karen and Jackie



## WOMEN'S CIRCLE

Telescope Circle will not meet in July.

Martha Circle will meet at Long Horn  
Steakhouse on Friday, July 13th at 11:00 am.

## Council Meeting

The council meeting will be July 11th at  
7:00 pm.



## Offerings....

### "Our gifts to God"

	Offerings	Attendance
April 29	\$ 1355.65	102
May 06	\$ 2052.00	161
May 13	\$ 2946.00	84
May 20	\$ 2413.00	110

## Faith Formation Coordinator

Thank you all so much for the warm welcome to being part of the Underwood Lutheran congregation and as the Faith Formation Coordinator. I am just beginning to learn all the aspects of this position and am very grateful for the people who have done all of this work on a volunteer basis for several years and have been helping me learn the ropes.

While looking forward to beginning Sunday School in the fall we are going to need several new Sunday School teachers. If this is something you feel called to be a part of or have some questions about, please contact me. We would like to have enough teachers that it would not be a commitment to teach every week. Team teaching for Sunday School is also a great option. Please consider this opportunity to help form the future of our community.

Thank you, Kim Madsen

e-mail: [faithformation.ulc@gmail.com](mailto:faithformation.ulc@gmail.com)

phone: 402-960-2003

# VBS

We are teaming up with Ingham Okoboji Lutheran Bible Camps for Day Camp this summer! At Day Camp, kids will encounter a week packed with Christ-centered activities, games, arts and crafts, songs, skits, and Bible-based lessons.

A team of Christ-centered, trained, and energetic staff from Ingham

Okoboji will be leading the week's activities. The theme is

**SEEK FIRST.** The week theme verse is Matthew 6:33.

It's going to be a fantastic week as we learn how we can Seek God, Us, Others, and ultimately Seek First.

Day Camp runs Monday-Thursday. Day Camp participants

get to bring their own sack meal every day, however, a snack and beverage will be provided.

The week concludes with a Thursday Day Camp Celebration where Day Campers show all they've experienced as we celebrate Christ! We hope you join us for Day Camp! Register today!

**Dates and Destination:** July 9-12

**Time/Age requirement:**

\*9:00am-2:00pm

(Completed Kindergarten-5th Grade-bring sack lunch)

\*9:00am-11:30am (Completed Preschool)

**Cost Per Ticket (Child):**

\$10 before June 23rd

\$15 after June 23rd

\*Scholarships Available

**Registration/Health Forms:** Available in the Narthex or on our website: [www.underwoodlutheran.org](http://www.underwoodlutheran.org)

**Send completed registration forms with payment to:**

Beth Torneten, PO 115, Underwood, IA 51576. or place in appropriate tray in Narthex.

Call Beth @: 402-639-2510, if questions.



*\*thank  
you\**

We want to thank you for the many cards we received for our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Thank you for the kind words and gifts.

*Darlene and Mike Shelton*





# Underwood Lutheran Church Family Movie Night

## Dates & Movies

Friday, June 15 – *Wonder*

Friday, July 20 – *Beauty and the Beast*

Friday, August 17 – *I Can Only Imagine*

## Underwood Lutheran Church

10 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue, Underwood, IA 51576

Come out this summer and enjoy FREE movies  
on the lawn at Underwood Lutheran Church.

Movies will begin at dusk (approximately 9:00pm).

Complimentary refreshments will be  
available for all moviegoers.

Blankets and lawn chairs are encouraged.

Questions:

Contact Sandy Redshaw at 712-566-9574



# Worship Participants for July, 2018

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

ORGANISTS	July 01	Nancy Dose	COMMUNION
	July 08	Judy Pingel	
	July 15	Nancy Dose	COMMUNION
	July 22	Judy Pingel	
	July 29	Nancy Dose	
ACOLYTES	July 01	Quentin Wollan	COMMUNION
	July 08	Hannah Wulff	
	July 15	Jack Dalen	COMMUNION
	July 22	Ellie Hackett	
	July 29	Sydney Leaders	
LECTORS	July 01	Gary Leaders	COMMUNION
	July 08	Lea Voss	
	July 15	Tonya Mayer	COMMUNION
	July 22	Richard Miller	
	July 29	Carol Urban	
USHERS	July 01	Mike Shelton and Bill Shelton	COMMUNION
	July 08	Jim and Nadine Trede	
	July 15	Jeff and Tracy Shreeves	COMMUNION
	July 22	Lewis Curtis and Jeremy Hultquist	
	July 29	Neil and Adam Darrington	
GREETERS	July 01		COMMUNION
	July 08	Rhonda Johnson and Megan Spencer	
	July 15		COMMUNION
	July 22		
	July 29		
SPECIAL MUSIC	July 01		COMMUNION
	July 08		
	July 15	Hannah Sealock and Arla Clausen	COMMUNION
	July 22		
	July 29		

ALTAR GUILD: Joyce Nelson and Cathy Novotny  
CARRYING ELEMENTS: Jim and Nadine Trede  
DEACON: Rhonda Johnson



**July 2018**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
7/1 9:30 AM Worship Service - NO Communion	2	3	4	5	6	7
8 9:30 AM Worship Service/ Holy Communion	9 VBS	10 VBS	11 VBS 6:00 PM Bible Study 7:00 PM Council Meeting	12 VBS	13 11:00 AM Martha Circle @ Longhorn Steakhouse	14
15 9:30 AM Worship Service / Holy Communion	16	17	18 6:00 PM Bible Study 7:00 PM High School Group	19	20 9:00 PM Free Movie Night	21
22 9:30 AM Worship Service - Outdoors @ Arrowhead	23	24	25 6:00 PM Bible Study	26	27	28
29 9:30 AM Worship Service	30 Pastor Scott / Vacation	31 Pastor Scott / Vacation				



# July Fourth Word Search



ADAMS  
AMERICA  
BARBECUE  
COLONIES  
CONGRESS  
DECLARATION  
EQUALITY  
FIREWORKS

FOURTH  
FREEDOM  
HOTDOGS  
INDEPENDENCE  
JEFFERSON  
JULY  
LIBERTY

NATION  
PARADE  
REVOLUTION  
RIGHTS  
STATES  
THIRTEEN  
UNITED

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*July* 