

The Messenger

Underwood Lutheran Church

November, 2018

Pastor Scott Dalen

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

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



-Wednesday evening Bible Study will continue meeting on the same schedule at 6:00pm, meeting most Wednesdays. Beginning in November, conversation will center on the Biblical Narrative. This will be an ongoing study, however, individuals are invited and encouraged to join in at any time. Additionally, Pastor Scott hopes to include an online option for engagement with this study for those who are unable to make the Wednesday evening sessions. Study will meet on the 7th, 14th, and 28th, but will not meet on the 21st due to the Thanksgiving Holiday.

-High School will meet on the 7th, but not on the 21st.

-5th grade students and their parents are invited to attend Communion Instruction on Thursday November 1st at 7:00pm at the church. They will be recognized for the Communion Milestone in worship on November 4th.

-November 4th is All Saints Sunday. During worship we will recognize those individuals who have died from our faith community in the past year.

-Sunday November 18th will feature our Annual Harvest Festival celebration following worship.

-Due to the Thanksgiving Holiday, Sunday November 25th will only feature worship. Education will not be held.

-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>



One of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" He said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind." This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.' (Matthew 22:25-40)

I often come back to this passage. As Jesus comments, it sums up the law and the prophets, which constituted "The scriptures" in Jesus' day. Essentially, we are reminded of the call to live in harmony with God and with our fellow human beings. And as I ponder on this, I can't help but think that it reveals the importance of recognizing our fellow humanity and treating one another with dignity and respect, knowing that we have all been claimed as beloved children of God.

It's November, and for all of us aged 18 or older, the 6th is an important day. Election Day. The day when we are called to cast our votes, both for elections at the local level as well as the state and even national level. This points us towards something that has developed an unpopular stigma in the church, or at least in church conversation...politics. But in reality "politics" simply means "the affairs of the city," or at least it did in an era when city-states were the norm. In today's terms, we could perhaps call it "the affairs of the people."

In our country, we elect individuals as representatives who will enact policies and procedures to do just that...to oversee the affairs of the people that fall under whatever level they are elected to, whether local or state or federal. In the election process, we are casting our vote for the individual that we believe best represents us. Of course, no candidate will ever be a perfect reflection of your interests and values and morals, unless you happen to be the candidate.

But it is our duty to do our homework. To see where the candidates at each level fall on issues that are important to us as individuals. To see what their past decisions have been, or what their intentions are on current issues that lie before us as a society. And then to cast our vote accordingly. This is our call...this is our duty as fellow citizens in this society that we share.

I'm not going to tell you who you should vote for. But what I will say is this. You should vote. This is a privilege that we are granted that many in the world do not share. Every one of us is given a voice in this. So do not take it for granted. Your voice matters.

As you exercise this right and duty, prayerfully consider the candidates who support policies and legislation that upholds the common humanity and dignity of all people. By doing this, I believe we are following Jesus' command to love God and love our neighbor.

In Christ,
Pastor Scott

Underwood Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes September 12, 2018

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

Others Present: Linda Merdinger

Absent: Lynn Leaders, Michael Johnson

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

Devotions were led by Pastor Scott Dalen

Financial Matters: Linda Merdinger presented the financial reports for the month. Her report included a correction from the August report as well as the regular September report. Bob moved to approve the August report, Carol second; motion carried. A question was raised regarding line item #506 (Custodial Services & Supplies). Linda commented that this was simply an accounting change within her software. Jeff moved to approve the September report, Bill seconded; motion carried.

Secretaries Report: Minutes were presented from the August meeting. Erik moved to approve the minutes, Jeff seconded; motion carried.

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

Facility Issues

- Parsonage Basement Seepage, North East Corner
 - Discovered Saturday Aug 25th
 - Either driving rain storm from the north on 19/20th, or heavy shower on 24th
 - 2nd Occurrence this year/History of issue in the past
 - Pulled carpet back to allow it to dry, concern for development of mold
- Need to Re-stretch/Potentially Clean Carpets in Parsonage
- Back Entry Door is catching on the threshold

Parish Education Matters

- Considering Topics for Adult Bible Study beginning in Oct

Calendar Matters

- Final Week of 2018 Vacation Still Pending (Likely Week following Christmas)
- 2019 Vacation February 2nd-8th (1 Sunday, Pulpit Supply Pending)
- Fall Theological Convocation (listed in August) Sept 16-18th
 - Registration Cost \$160
 - Location in Griswold, I will drive each day rather than needing accommodations
- Congregation Policy on Pastoral Sabbatical
 - Synod Guidelines suggest a sabbatical after 6 years

Congregational Life

- Scholarship Fund Follow Up For Marietta Nelson-Bittle
- Potential New Council Members 2019
- Feasibility of Moving to Electronic distribution of Newsletter

Pastoral Acts

- Annual School Advisory Board Meeting Sept 5th
- Led Invocation for Dedication of New Flag Pole @ City Hall Sept 11th
- Funeral Prep Work Richard Geise
- Regular Visitation Schedule

-154 Communed (3 Communion Weeks, via green slips)

-Aug 5th 33 of 43

-Aug 19th 73 of 80

-Sept 2nd 48 of 56

Committee Reports:

Operations

Budget meeting set for Wednesday Sept 19th with the intention of having the budget ready for October.

Property

Jerry Strausser has informed us that he will no longer be providing sidewalk snow/ice removal as well as lawn mowing in the summer. Roger will explore potential options. We will need to continue re-visiting the front of the parsonage.

Education

Sunday School began with Rally Day this past Sunday. Bibles have not yet been ordered, but Pastor Scott and Kim will put this order together before the next meeting.

Life

Erik updated after talking with Lifetouch regarding directories. He has scheduled them for November 12th-14th 2-9pm on the 12th and 13th, and 12-7pm on the 14th. Each sitting comes with a free 8x10 plus free printed directory.

Old Business:

The Endowment Committee has determined the following breakdown for the unaccounted funds currently held with Ed Jones. New York Life \$100,000; Thrivent \$200,000; Money Market/Cash Funds \$20,000; Ed Jones (approximate amount, the remaining amount of the fluid/cash portion currently held) \$160,000 which will be invested in CD's in the 12-36 month range. When the current CD's mature, this is the plan.

We discussed the possibility of a Stewardship/Service committee. Conversation centered around the initial work that is already going on with Kim's early work, particularly with the Junior High group. With a long term goal of growing our cross generational ministry. With this in mind, the council determined that we will forgo this conversation for the time being.

New Business:

We discussed the upcoming Roast Beef Dinner hosted by the Women's group on Sunday October 21st. There is also planning for Ladies Holiday Brunch on Sunday November 25th before Service. We also discussed the Harvest Festival, which will be discussed at the Operations Committee Meeting.

Gary Leader's family has reserved the basement for 11-22-18.

Bob 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
October.

The Johnson Family
Dave and Linda Jennings
Karen Larsen, Shirley Koenig and
Jackie Masker



WOMEN'S CIRCLE

Telescope Circle will meet November 8th at 1:30 in the church basement with Sue Hemmingsen as your hostess.

Martha Circle will meet November 9th at 2 pm at the home of Judy Pingel.

Council Meeting

The council meeting will be November 14th at 7:00 pm.



Roast Beef Dinner

We had great weather the day of the Roast Beef Dinner. Perhaps part of the reason our numbers were down quite a bit. The farmers were busy in the fields. Thank you, thank you to ALL who helped with every aspect of making this event a success. There are too many people to mention everyone, but a special thanks to Kathy Darrington for purchasing and preparing all the delicious food.

There will be a ladies meeting after church on Sunday, November 4th to go over the details of the dinner and other items. All ladies are encouraged to come.

We are looking at sponsoring families again this year for Christmas. If we do this, there will be clipboards passed around if you wish to participate in helping out the families.

On Sunday, November 25th at 8:30am, we will have our 2nd Annual Holiday Brunch and all the Ladies and daughters, granddaughters, sisters, etc. are invited to attend.

Offerings....

"Our gifts to God"

	Offerings	Attendance
Sept. 23	\$ 1419.50	132
Sept. 30	\$ 1889.65	103
Oct. 07	\$ 2009.00	105
Oct. 14	\$ 2498.00	109
Oct. 21	\$ 1761.97	51

Worship Participants for November, 2018

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

ORGANISTS	Nov. 04	Judy Pingel	COMMUNION
	Nov. 11	Nancy Dose	
	Nov. 18	Judy Pingel	COMMUNION
	Nov. 25	Nancy Dose	
ACOLYTES	Nov. 04	Colin VanTilburg	COMMUNION
	Nov. 11	Jadynn McDonald	
	Nov. 18	Quentin Wollan	COMMUNION
	Nov. 25	Hannah Wulff	
LECTORS	Nov. 04	Carol Urban	COMMUNION
	Nov. 11	Jeremy Hultquist	
	Nov. 18	Emma Wulff	COMMUNION
	Nov. 25	Weta Butterfield	
USHERS	Nov. 04	Jeff and Tracy Shreeves	COMMUNION
	Nov. 11	Lewis Curtis and Jeremy Hultquist	
	Nov. 18	Neil and Adam Darrington	COMMUNION
	Nov. 25	Phil Feller and Dick Miller	
GREETERS	Nov. 04	Rhonda Johnson & Megan Spencer	COMMUNION
	Nov. 11		
	Nov. 18	Julie Larsen, Joyce Tiarks , Lois Johnson	COMMUNION
	Nov. 25	Kathy Darrington & Analise Letner	
SPECIAL MUSIC	Nov. 04		COMMUNION
	Nov. 11		
	Nov. 18	Carol Yeaton	COMMUNION
	Nov. 25		

ALTAR GUILD: Nadine Trede and Libby Shelton
CARRYING ELEMENTS: Greg and Sandy Redshaw
DEACON: Carol Yeaton



November 2018						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				11/1 7:00 PM 5th Grade Communion Instruction	2	3
4 9:00 AM Sunday School/Confirmation/Adult Forum 10:15 AM Worship Service/Holy Communion	5	6	7 5:00 PM Junior High 6:00 PM Bible Study 7:00 PM High School Group	8 1:30 PM Telescope Circle	9 2:00 PM Martha Circle	10
11 9:00 AM Sunday School/Confirmation/Adult Forum 10:15 AM Worship Service	12 2:00 PM Directory Pictures	13 2:00 PM Directory Pictures	14 12:00 PM Directory Pictures 6:00 PM Bible Study 7:00 PM Council Meeting	15	16	17 10:00 AM Scrapbooking
18 9:00 AM Sunday School/Confirmation/Adult Forum 10:15 AM Worship Service/Holy Communion	19	20	21	22 Thanksgiving Day Basement Rental/ Gary Leaders	23	24
25 9:00 AM No Education 10:15 AM Worship Service	26	27	28 6:00 PM Bible Study	29	30	

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