

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

NOVEMBER 2025 NEWSLETTER

I want to thank everyone who helped with the chicken dinner, serving, making desserts or salads, the kids who were running orders to the cars, and to Paul and Shannon for collecting the money. A special thank you to Cheri, Marla, and Judy for all the planning for this year's successful dinner. I also want to thank the CE Committee for planning the trunk or treat and the trip to the Holly Acres corn maze. Thank you to everyone in the church. All of your hard work is making this church what it is.

As we say goodbye to October and hello to November, we have seen our chicken dinner be successful again. Seeing our committees working together to make our church run well.

Jesus stated that one of his missions is to shed light on all of the unique and strange experience of being human, so that people can feel less alone in those experiences. While we might not always be able to find a word for what we're going through, believers in Jesus can take great comfort in knowing that God values and understands what it's like to be human. He values people so much that He chose to entrust humanity with caring for creation (Hebrews 2: 7-8). And because of Jesus, God understands completely what it's like to live as a human. Christ is God made fully human, which means other believers are Jesus' "brothers and sisters" (ver. 12). Christ not only understands all our experiences and temptations, but He has also broken "the power of death" over our lives. Because of Him, our experiences need not cause us to feel afraid or alone. Instead, we can celebrate the gift of being human.

God understands that we do not want to be alone. That is why he has told us that he will always be with us. If you question this, please read the poem "Footprint in the Sand". God is with us in the good times and the bad. We need to be thankful and let him know how thankful we are during both good and bad times. Remember that God knew you before you were born, He has been with you for your whole life.

God Bless,

Pastor Kirk Manchester



The Annual Chicken Dinner was a huge success. We served 327 meals this year. Thank you to Cheri, Judy, and Marla for all the planning. They would like to thank everyone who signed up to work the dinner and those who made salads and/or desserts. Thank you to those who said YES when called. A big thank you to the kids and youth who helped that day. A job was found for everyone, no matter what their age.



NOVEMBER HYMNS ON THE CHIMES



Nov 1, 6:30 pm, **"Just as I Am"** in memory of Leroy & Genevieve Brodersen and Darriel & Bernadine Landgraf from Darrell & Marcia

Nov 2, 5:00 pm, **"How Great Thou Art"** in memory of Leola Claussen from Craig Claussen

Nov 5, 5:30 pm, **"How Great Thou Art"** in memory of Rubie Kastner from UCC Choir

Nov 9, 6:30 pm, **"In the Garden"** in memory of Alan Teut from family

Nov 11, 5:15 pm, **"America the Beautiful"** in honor of Veteran's Day from UCC

Nov 15, 5:00 pm, **"An Evening Prayer"** in memory of Clara Wonder from the Wonder family

Nov 19, 11:00 am, **"The Lord's Prayer"** in memory of Walter Huebner from UCC

Nov 20, 6:15 pm, **"Ten Thousand Angels"** in memory of William Petersen from UCC Choir

Nov 21, 6:15 pm **"What a Friend We Have in Jesus"** in memory of Phyllis Clausen from UCC Evening Guild

Nov 22, 6:15 pm, **"Old Rugged Cross"** in memory of Laverna Jensen from family & friends

Nov 30, 6:15 pm, **"Battle Hymn of the Republic"** in memory of Dick Iversen from Marian Iversen



Shelby Barker	11/1
Genevieve Clausen	11/1
Hayden Hipnar	11/2
Tyson Teut	11/5
Gavin Grau	11/6
Sandra Lacey	11/7
Jersey Bral	11/9
Nancy Pearson	11/10
Mark Sharp	11/12
Clinton Stecker	11/12
Journey Bral	11/13
Judy Strandburg	11/13
Emma Holloway	11/15
Jason Clausen	11/17
Jaxon Paulsen	11/19
Pam Gronau	11/24
Ross Kastner	11/25
Jill Sedore	11/26
Matthew Clausen	11/27
Mark Kastner	11/27
Jeannetta Knief	11/29
Kirk Manchester	11/29
Ken Boger	11/30

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

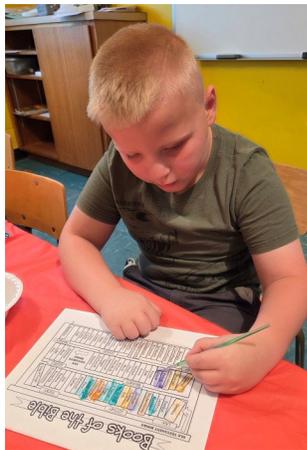
Sunday School is back in full swing and we have been working our way through the alphabet. Each Sunday we discuss the current letter lesson which includes a game, snack, experiment, and/or craft. We first jumped ahead to “L” and kept our “lambs” safe. “A” was for Adam and the Creation story where they watched a short movie and created their own take of the bible story, while the 6th graders did a Creation Story escape room. “B” led us to Bible trivia and painting the Books of the Bible with water colors.

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We were blessed with beautiful weather the last weekend of October for all of our fall activities. The CE and Mission’s committees held our Annual Trunk or Treat for the community. We started our Sunday with inviting Church members to wear Halloween outfits to Sunday School, Confirmation, and Church. There were crafts all day and games, photo ops, roasting food, and lots of treats and fellowship during our event. Thank you to all that helped make the weekend a huge success!



**Fun in
Sunday
School**





Trunk or Treat 2025



Totenfest



**RECOGNITION AND DEDICATION
OF MEMORIALS**

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 2025

A LITANY OF REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

TOTENFEST SUNDAY

A Litany of Remembrance will be included in the Service of Worship on Sunday, November 23rd in honor of the following people who have joined the Church Triumphant.

- William (Bill) Benson.....11/26/2024
- Murlin Johannsen.....12/21/2024
- Derek Johannsen..... 3/1/2025
- Marlene Baer.....3/13/2025
- Janice Ferry.....4/12/2025
- Leon Gosch.....8/18/2025
- LaWayne Gronau.....8/27/2025

We invite the family, relatives and friends of the deceased members to make a special effort to attend this treasured remembrance service.



November Greeters

November 2 - Mike & Jackie Goodin

November 9 - Gary & Linda Reimer

November 16 - Dennis & Lorene Reimer

November 23- Patti Miller & Judy Strandburg

November 30- Sandy Lacey & Julie Christie

November Acolytes

November 2 - Jersey Bral & Journey Bral

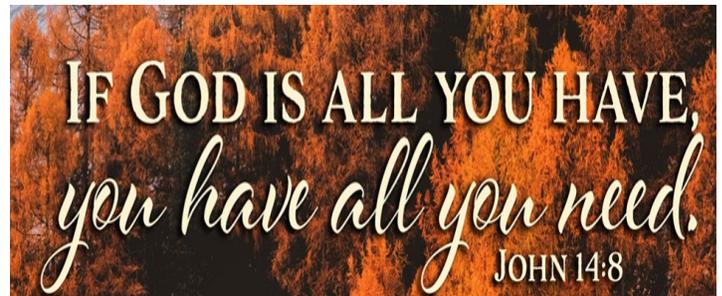
November 9 - Averi Valentine & Sophia Luth

November 16 - Ella Anders & June Jurgensen

November 23 - Taryn Johannsen

& Averi Valentine

November 30- Sophia Luth & Journey Bral



September Numbers for the Book

Date:	Attendance:	Contributions:
9-7	47	\$545.00
9-14	33	\$780.00
9-21	46	\$1147.00
9-28	44	\$1269.00
Total:	170	\$3741.00
Average:	42	\$935.25

September

Financials



Income:

Weekly envelopes	\$	3649.00
Loose Offering	\$	314.00
Seasonal Offering	\$	8.00
Misc. Offerings	\$	0.00
Misc. Income	\$	174.15
Interest Income-Gen. Fund	\$	24.35
Investment Income	\$	0.00
Total Income:	\$	4169.50

Expenses:

Insurance & Taxes	\$	3042.96
Janitor Supplies	\$	9.63
Misc. Expenses	\$	0.00
Music	\$	300.00
Office Expense	\$	313.41
Pastor Expenses	\$	5644.59
Payroll Expenses	\$	0.00
Repairs and Maintenance	\$	61968.72
Supplies	\$	323.68
Support Staff Salaries	\$	3717.50
Utilities	\$	1131.29
Total expense:	\$	76451.78
Net Ordinary Income	\$	(-72,282.28)

HANGING OF THE GREENS & AVENUE OF TREES

Hanging of the Greens and the Avenue of Trees decorating will take place on **Sunday, November 23 following the worship service.** We ask that trees be decorated so all are up by the first Sunday of Advent on November 30th. Please contact the church office at 676-3917 to reserve your stand.



Santa Day Luncheon

The Mission Committee will again be serving the luncheon on Santa Claus Day on Saturday, December 6th. We will be asking for donations of desserts and ground beef.

Please watch for the sign-up sheets in the Narthex. This is our main fundraiser for mission projects and well received by crafters. We would really appreciate your volunteering so we don't need to start making phone calls.

Thank you all!!





Council Meeting Minutes

September 17, 2025

Call to Order: Council President, John Fineran opened the meeting at 6:30 PM.

Council members in attendance were Josie Krohnke, Roberta Jepsen, John Bahnsen, Jill Sedore and Seth Neubauer. John Dorfler and Leisha Kragel attended via telephone. Kirk Manchester and Tammy Neubauer were also present.

Opening Prayer: Kirk opened the meeting with a prayer.

Approval of Minutes: A motion was made to approve the minutes from the August 20, 2025 meeting and seconded. Motion carried.

Approval of Financial Report: A motion was made to approve the financial report. It was seconded. Motion carried.

Bills to be paid: A motion was made to pay the September bills, with the addition of \$53.78 to Bomgaars for lawn watering equipment. Seconded. Motion carried.

Committee Reports:

CE: They have discussed several Youth Fellowship activities and Trunk or Treat. A date to start confirmation has not been determined.

CSFD: No meeting.

CSFI: No meeting.

Property: The lawn has been seeded; parking lot expansion joints are being cleaned and prepared for sealant. Lines will be painted soon. Property has been working hard to keep the new seeding wet. John B. offered the run-off water from his shed to water the lawn.

Spiritual Life: Will be meeting September 21 following worship, with the Missions Committee.

Missions & Outreach: Will be meeting September 21 following worship, with the Spiritual Life Committee.

Stewardship: No report

Endowment: No report.

Pastor's Report: Council reviewed the report submitted, listing visiting elderly, giving communion, a funeral, doing counseling and setting date for confirmation to start. The report states he will meet with confirmation parents yet.

Old Business:

John Wulf Money: The cemeteries are very appreciative of the money given to them for headstone restoration.

Farm Leases: Chris Ullrich offered \$350 per acre for the farm ground he has been farming. Council instructed John F. to tell them we would do a 1 year lease for \$375, which is the same rent being paid for the other farm ground.

New Business:

JAC Grants: A total of 9 grant applications were received. After discussion on each, the following grants were awarded:



(Continued)

Schleswig School Supply	\$1500
Ida County Ag in the Classroom	\$2000
Neighbor Helping Neighbor	\$3,000
Crossroads of Crawford County	\$20,000
Morgan Cemetery	\$3,000
The Sanctuary	\$2,500
City of Schleswig (pickle ball court)	\$5,000
Time to Revive	\$5,000
Immanuel Lutheran Preschool	\$2,000

Technology: One of the computers in the balcony is not working correctly. It was taken to Computer MD and Candice was told it will be at least a week before they can look at it. If they have not repaired it by the end of next week, it will be picked up and taken somewhere else. There will be no technology until it is repaired.

Chicken Dinner: Judy Strandberg, Cheri Streck and Marla Teut will be planning and organizing the dinner. More information to come.

John Fineran announced he will not be president of the council next year.

The next meeting will be October 15, 2025 at 6:30.

With no further discussion, a motion was made to adjourn and was seconded. The Lord's Prayer was recited and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Tammy Neubauer

Financial and Council Secretary

The Middle School and High School Youth Fellowship had the opportunity to go to the Holly View Acres Corn Maze near Hornick. This year's theme for the maze was "The Lord is my Shepherd". For those unfamiliar with this pumpkin patch, they started up in 2020 and currently hold a "Praise in the Pasture" once a season that has been free and open to all.

