

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

OCTOBER 2024 NEWSLETTER

Well September ended in a flurry here at the church with the 125th celebration. I want to thank everyone that took part in riding, decorating, designing, and handing out the fly swatters (which was a huge success). The float was a great way for use to show the community of who we are and that we take part in our community. And then two of our church members found themselves being called to be with the Lord. Our thoughts and prayers go out to both of these families and extend a hand to help these families at this time. As Christians it is our responsibility to extend the hand of God to help these families in any way possible. So, I ask you as a congregation to extend a helping hand to them and all those in our community who are hurting at this time.

We eventually answer to one person in the end and he looks to see how we have helped and loved others. Paul wrote in Colossians, “whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him” (Colossians 3:17). Paul also added, “Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters”. Our own work for God can be just as sweet for our audience of One. This states that we are work for the Lord and do it all in his name.

In doing this we need to show patience’s. Patience is one of the fruits of the spirit and an essential virtue for becoming “mature and complete, not lacking anything (James 1:4). Patience people keep their heads when everyone around is in full panic mode. They’d like the situation to be different, but they don’t need it to be. They stay the course, trusting God for his wisdom to act wisely.

The problem with patience is there’s only one way to learn it. James says, “the testing of your faith produces patience” (v. 3). Such testing come in ways big and small. We have all lost our patience before with our kids or something at work does not go as planned. Have you ever had to stand in the checkout line for what seems like hours, and wondered why they don’t have another person there to check out you and others. Especially when you have something else that you need to do. Or how about being put on hold on the phone and it takes forever to talk to a real person. This is where your patience’s is learned. It’s hard, but this is a good time to take a deep breath and say a prayer to our almighty Father and ask him for patience.

So, when time get tough and you have lost your patience’s, step back and say that prayer and ask our loving Father to get you through this tough time in your life.

Don’t forget about the annual chicken dinner on the 20th or the diamond painting class hear at the church on the 12th.

Have a Blessed October,

Pastor Kirk Manchester



STEWARDSHIP OCTOBER 2024

Did you feel a different vibe in our church on September 8? It was friendly, cheerful, attentive, interested, and non-combative. We had an excellent attendance, had just heard a positive musical message from our guest speaker, people mingled and visited, and were about to vote on a very expensive improvement to our church property. Ken gave an excellent description of the work that was to be done and why it was needed after many years of wear.

We were being asked to approve an expenditure of well over \$400,000. Do you realize what that amount of money would mean to many churches – bake sales, pledge campaigns, fund raising events, and a huge number of appeals to our members. Schleswig UCC didn't have to embark on that kind of campaign because of the gift of the Carstensen Brothers estates, a knowledgeable investment committee, good stock market values, and some timely selling from the profits. The vote passed overwhelmingly.

As suggested many times, we must honor the Carstensen family for the gift earned from their rather frugal life style. We must give thanks to our Lord for the gift of knowledge of our investment committee and the hard work of the property committee in determining what needed to be done and getting proper bids. God has indeed been good to the Schleswig UCC.

Now what can we as a congregation do? We still fall short of donations to support the general budget of the church – really short. We have used income from the Carstensen Brothers account to

meet budget needs. We will still need to do that and can as we have excellent dividend income. But how about that shortfall? We as members need to reduce the amount of that shortfall with our gifts of time, talent, and treasures.

What are your talents? You like to cook and bake – contribute generously when we need bars, to organize a dinner, or bake sale. You are knowledgeable about money and investing – serve on council, develop budgets, join a committee. You like children – help with youth education, bring your own kids to church and activities. You like gardening or yard work -help on work day or some other yard project, spray sidewalk weeds, do something to lighten Jolene's work. You like to clean - offer to wash windows or some other cleaning job. You are above average income, getting by, or struggling financially – give financially as you are able, well to do – give extra. God is good to you – bring a happy, joy-filled face to church. Old, frail, and short on energy – everyone can pray, share ideas, and avoid complaining. Each of us must do what we can!!

August Numbers for the Books

Date:	Attendance:	Offering:
August 4	47	\$604.00
August 11	34	\$452.00
August 18	35	\$1181.00
August 25	35	\$541.75
Total:	151	\$2778.75
Average:	37	\$694.69



August Financials



Income:

Weekly envelopes	\$	2963.00
Loose Offering	\$	66.50
Seasonal Offering	\$	10.00
Misc. Offerings	\$	0.00
Misc. Income	\$	141.62
Interest Income-Gen. Fund	\$	7.82
Investment Income	\$	0.00
Total Income:	\$	3188.94

Expenses:

Travel & meetings	\$	0.00
Insurance & Taxes	\$	264.67
Janitor Supplies	\$	22.62
Misc. Expenses	\$	99.00
Music	\$	120.00
Office Expense	\$	346.23
Pastor Expenses	\$	5127.27
Repairs and Maintenance	\$	219.35
Supplies	\$	497.00
Support Staff Salaries	\$	3324.50
Utilities	\$	2000.94
Total expense:	\$	12021.58

Net Ordinary Income \$ (-8832.64)



October	1	Jenny Boelter Brady Thies
October	8	Ginny Larson
October	9	Dennis Reimer Jackie Kragel
October	10	Hayden Fineran
October	13	Madison Bielenberg
October	15	Dalton Rupert
October	18	Jackie Goodin
October	19	Brooke McDonald
October	20	Shae Hansen
October	21	Nora Strandburg
October	22	Brayton Johannsen Colin Neddermeyer
October	23	Jim Stender
October	25	Shannon Cose Lacey Neubauer
October	26	Owen Pratt
October	28	Jagger Ipsen Mason Kragel
October	29	Charlie Anders





HYMNS ON THE CHIMES

- October 4th 10:15 am **“Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us”** in honor of Rev. A.F. Rinne from UCC
- October 6th 12:15 pm **“How Great Thou Art”** in memory of Ella Schroeder from family & friends
- October 7th 5:00 pm **“Just a Closer Walk with Thee”** in memory of William C. Wonder from family
- October 9th 10:15 am **“Rock of Ages”** in memory of Carsten Carstensen
- October 20th 12:15 pm **“He Lives”** in memory of Dr. Warren Tyler and Alpha Searcy from Betty Tyler
- October 22nd 5:00 pm **“Shall We Gather at the River”** in memory of Gladys Bendixen from Ray Bendixen
- October 29th 7:00 pm **“What a Day That Will Be”** in memory of Marcia Brodersen from her family
- October 31st 6:30 pm **“Amazing Grace”** in memory of Merle Bielenberg from family



The family of Jason Wiebers

The family of Sandra Bumann



Saturday, October 19th

church service will be at 5:30 pm.

No Sunday School, Confirmation or church service before the chicken dinner on Sunday, October 20th.

Diamond Painting Class

Saturday, October 12th from 10am-noon

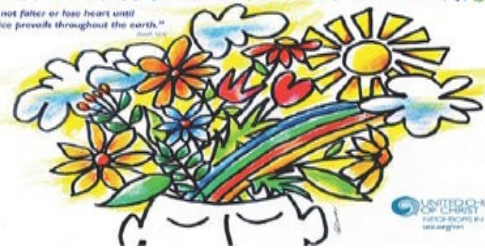
Adults will make a 12”x16” picture for \$8

Kids will make a small magnet for \$7

All supplies included. **Please sign up by Monday, September 30.**

MENTAL HEALTH JUSTICE FOR ALL
Mental health is a universal human right

“God will not father or lose hearts until justice prevails throughout the earth.”



UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
MIND AND SPIRIT NEED 2024
www.ucc.org

The Neighbors in Need Offering will be collected on Sunday, October 6th during worship. This year’s theme is **“Mental Health Justice For All!”** This year’s focus is on Mental Health Justice. A just world for all is a world where the human rights and well-being of people with mental health challenges are respected, no matter who you are or where you are in life’s mental health journey.



Church Council

Council Meeting Minutes August 15, 2024

President Cheri Streck opened the meeting 7:10 pm. Those in attendance were Cheri, John D., John F., Seth, Leisha and John B. (by phone). Absent: Josie, Jeff and Kirk. Guest: Mike Goodin and Jessica Jurgensen. Cheri asked John D. to give the opening prayer.

Jessica (CE Director) was there to discuss confirmation expectations, obligations of student, Kirk (confirmation teacher), parents, church council and CE. As the CE director, Jessica and her CE Committee thought all need aware of these expectations. Due to Kirk not being at the council it was challenging to make any kind of decisions. With there currently being only 1 being confirmed this year, there was discussion on possibly different time and/or day and if there is a need to continue student going to Sunday School. No decisions were made.

Mike Goodin updated and visited with council about CSFI investments.

President Cheri thank both for coming and sharing thoughts and concerns.

Approval of Minutes: A motion was made to approve the minutes from July meeting and was seconded. Motion carried.

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

Bills to be Paid: A motion was made to pay the bills and was seconded. Motion carried.

Committee Reports:

CE: Had mtg. on August 4th. Discussed confirmation and Jessica will plan to meet with council at their next mtg. (See above) Talked and planned for movie at church on the Aug. 10th with pizza to follow. Had 8 kids, 4 committee members and 2 adults from congregation and Kirk was there and helped with popcorn. Sunday School materials are here. It was decided to have only one group for Sunday school due to no volunteers to help. Details are

still being worked out. 1st day of Sunday School will be September 22nd.

CSFD: Scholarship Sunday was 7/28

CSFI: See above.

Property: Trees are down, stumps removed and areas have been seeded. Lamp Post by the office door was broke off (vandalism). The table glass in Narthex is cracked checking on replacing. Discussion on filling the cracks in parking lot, circle drive and sidewalks or try to move forward on new concrete.

Spiritual Life: No report

Missions & Outreach: 6 members of the church went to Sioux Rapids to help at the VFW building by removing the bottom sheet rock that was damaged by the flood. Thank you to Kirk, Kevin, Tammy, Taylor, Lacey, and Roberta for volunteering.

Stewardship: No report

Pastor's Report: Pastor did visitations at the care centers and normal monthly things. Confirmation is still being discussed.

Old Business:

Erica M. would be willing to make 5 dozen cookies / bars for after church fellowship at a cost of \$ 7.50 per dozen and supplying 5 dozen. Could start on Sept. 1st. If she is unable to make them Sydney Krohnke will fill in for her.

Yearly Audit – change wording in by-laws. Review scheduled for 8-22-24. Tabled till next mtg.

Chicken Dinner: Cheri, Judy and Marla making plans for chicken dinner on Oct. 20th.

Ad in paper for the Schleswig Celebration

New Business:

Calf Show Parade: Fly swatters (Josie), candy, banners and ride tickets. The banners are in. Motion was made to increase money to \$3,000 from John Wulf Acct. to help cover expenses for the 125th Celebration and seconded. Motion carried.

Council had more discussion on the parking lot, driveway and sidewalks needing repaired or replaced. A motion was made to get quotes for new concrete in parking lot (6''), circle



(Council Minutes continued)

drive and sidewalks and seconded. Motion carried. Seth will get new bids and Cheri will talk to Candice about getting a letter out to congregation to have special meeting on September 8th with discussion and to vote on this project. A motion was made to pull the 3 smallest dividend paying stocks and was seconded. Motion carried.

Mike Goodin – see above

Grants – will be discussed next month.

Motion made to adjourn the meeting and seconded. Meeting ended with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,
Leisha Kragel



United Church of Christ FALL CHICKEN DINNER

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20
11 AM-12:30 PM

CATERED BY STALEY'S

DRIVE THRU ONLY-IN TOWN DELIVERIES AVAILABLE
\$13 MEAL INCLUDES 2 PIECES OF
CHICKEN, MASHED POTATOES &
GRAVY, GREEN BEANS, PASTA SALAD,
ROLL, AND DESSERT



Special Congregational Meeting

Minutes 9-8-24

A special congregational meeting was held on September 8, 2024 following the worship service.

The meeting was opened by President Cheri Streck. She thanked the property committee, investment committee and the council for their work on the parking lot resurfacing project.

Ken Boger explained the plans to demolish the parking lot, circle drive, curbs, east parking, service drive and remove the pavers around the planter and next to the east side of the sanctuary. New concrete will be poured in all areas with a tile and drain installed to address the water in the parking lot issue. The property committee got bids from Ten Point and Heiden Concrete for the project. They would like to use Heiden Concrete at an estimated cost of slightly over \$430,000, if the ballot is favorable. The investment committee has secured funding from investment income to fund the project.

The ballot was favorable with 52 yes and 3 no votes.

Respectfully submitted,

Tammy Neubauer



**Thank you to everyone who helped with
the church's float for the Schleswig's
125th parade**



Greeters:

Oct. 6- Wayne & Ina Mae Bliesmann

Oct. 13- Paul Outhouse
& Shannon Cose

Oct. 19 (Sat.) - LaWayne & Pam Gronau

Oct. 27- Darrell Schmidt & Larry Kastner

Acolytes:

Oct. 6- Ella Anders
& Brayton Johannsen

Oct. 13- Huntur Johannsen
& Jett Paulsen

Oct. 19 (Sat.) - June Jurgensen
& Taryn Johannsen

Oct. 27- Ryder Luth & Cale Paulsen

Christian Education

Sunday School is here! Our first two parables we will be discussing are "The Parable of the Yeast" Mathew 13:33 and "The Parable of the Talents" Matthew 25:14-30, if you would like to follow along with us. We did a Parable Escape Room exercise in our Church basement with our Youth Fellowship on September 8th followed with Pizza. It was a great introduction into many of Jesus' Parables for our youth and their friends. Mark your calendars for our next Youth Fellowship on October 27th! More details coming soon.

Jessica Jurgensen
CE Director



UCC Trunk or Treat

Sunday, October 27th from 12-2 pm

If you are interested in having a decorated trunk (car, pickup, suv, golf cart, etc) or have questions, please contact

Jessica (CE Director) at 269-8380

Everyone is welcome!

