

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

SEPTEMBER 2024 NEWSLETTER

It is time for our lives to start getting busy again. With school starting for kids and the people that work at the schools. Sunday school starting for another year. I thank the CE committee for all their work in getting it set up and them personally for teaching. Thank you, ladies. Confirmation will be starting back up at the end of this month, we will be having just one young man for confirmation. I ask for all of you to pray for all of these people that are involved in this year schools and for all those who are supporting them. Especially for the parents.

As our schedules are changing and everything is getting back into a routine for the fall starting up, its time that we start getting back to church also. As we come back and get back into the church. We need to be willing to step out in our faith and be willing to be active in the church activities. We have Calf Days coming up and it is good to see that people have signed up to help with the float. I know that they also have opportunities to work for a couple hours at a event that is going on during Friday or Saturday. It would be good to see a lot of you at the church community service on Sunday morning up town at 9:00. The mission's committee is hosting a sign painting class on Saturday afternoon of Calf show days. We are also planning on having church on the 29th outside in the grass, so bring your lawn chairs.

When we trust God with our lives, He gives us the courage to move forward, whether choosing to speak the truth of the Bible or to take a step into unknown territory. Maybe saying yes to serving on a committee when asked.

In 1st Corinthians 16: 13 it states, "be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be courageous; be strong." This verse encourages believers to stand firm in their faith, demonstrating courage and strength. Stepping out in faith often requires boldness and resilience in the face of opposition or uncertainty. By being rooted in faith, we can navigate challenges and confidently pursue God's calling.

This would be the basis of when Peter walked on water as found in Matthew 14:29, "Come, he said. Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water, and came toward Jesus." Peter's faith enabled him to walk on water briefly. However, when he allowed fear and doubt to seep in, he began to sink. This highlights the importance of unwavering faith and trust in Jesus amidst challenging circumstances.

In the first chapter of Joshua Jesus says, "have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go."

Or another example would be from Romans 4: 20-21, "Yet he did not waver through unbelief regarding the promise of God, but was strengthened in his faith and gave glory to God, being fully persuaded that God had the power to do what he had promised." This verse refers to Abraham's unyielding faith in God's promise of a son, despite the circumstances suggesting otherwise. Abraham's unwavering faith in God's power and faithfulness serves as an inspiration for us today to trust in God's promises and step out in faith, regardless of external factors.

This is just a couple of examples of instances of people stepping out in faith to follow God calling in which their age, gender, or race did not matter. God has a plan for us, and it is our responsibility to follow his calling. So, this day, month, year, take a step out in faith and follow Jesus. Amen.

Have a blessed day,

Pastor Kirk



Church Council
Minutes
July 18, 2024

Call to Order—The meeting was called to order by President Cheri Streck. Those present were Cheri, John D., John F., Seth, and Josie. Absent were John B. and Leisha.

Pastor Kirk opened the meeting with a prayer.

Approval of the Minutes: The minutes were approved with changes by a motion and seconded. Motion carried.

Approval of the Financial Report: The financial report was approved by a motion and seconded. Motion carried.

Bills to be Paid: Bills to be paid for a total of \$5,725.26 were approved by a motion and seconded. Motion carried.

Committee Reports:

CE: There will be a movie August 10th in the afternoon. There will be a meeting August 4th after church.

CSFD: Pam came in Tuesday and said that Scholarship Checks were ready to be handed out to the recipients.

CSFI: They took money from Home Depot stock and Eli Lilly stock and are planning to reinvest the stock money. This is because too much stock is held in Home Depot and Eli Lilly. They are going to invest the dividend into the daycare and possibly the church parking lot 9 (pending a congregational vote).

Property: They are still waiting on the tree service company. We have two cracked windows from the hail. They want to sandblast the propane tanks and repaint them. There is a list for work activities for work day. They need to decide on how much to replace on the church sidewalks.

Spiritual Life: The community picnic was a success. The ladies that put it together did an awesome job. There were approximately 100 people. The heat and activities outside of the community were a factor in the attendance. Food Pride was a big help with the community picnic.

Missions & Outreach: Same as Spiritual Life

Stewardship: Nothing to Report

Pastor's Report: Pastor preached at Homestead and took extra food from the picnic to community members. He visited with church members at nursing homes, and he had a wonderful time at VBS. September 29th, Pastor will have outside service. He will be working at the Junior Golf Tournament on Monday. Pastor would like to take vacation on September 8 and 9. October 17th is our Ad Council and Pastor has a conflict with scheduling.

Old Business:

Cookies: We need people to bring cookies after August 4th. The Council decided to ask for a paid volunteer to make cookies in the church bulletin and put a volunteer sign-up sheet out front.

Church Community Picnic: This was mentioned in the notes for Spiritual Life and Missions.

Chicken Dinner: October 20th will be the Chicken Dinner and church will be on Saturday the 19th.

New Business:

Yearly Audit: The word "audit" in the by-laws is the problem. We are actually doing a review. The decision needs to be made about changing the word audit to review in the by-laws. A motion to change the word audit to review was made and seconded. Motion carried.

Ad in Schleswig Celebration Newspaper Section: We need to have our name in this section. A motion to put our name in this section for \$99 (6 ¾ by 2 ¼ advertisement) was made and seconded. Motion carried.

Calf Show Days Float: Pastor got the hayrack from Chad. The banners are going to be ordered. They have an idea for the float that involves the town's German heritage.

A motion was made by to leave an extra \$650 in the CE budget and was seconded. The motion carried.

Candice's hour per week has been tabled until the next meeting.

The Meeting was adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted

Jeff Boelter

Cierra Kastner- Buena Vista University
Jaxon Paulsen- WITCC
Gracie Outhouse- Iowa State University

We wish these young people a successful year, both in academics and socially - making new friends and memories to last a lifetime.



Outdoor Worship Service
Sunday, September 29th
at 10 am.
Please bring your lawn
chairs.



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20TH, 2024

**Save the date for this major
budget fundraiser**

All-church project

**Please donate food or money, plan to
work, and feed your family!**

HYMNS ON THE CHIMES

September 5th 8:15 A.M. "Ave
Maria" in memory of Dr. Robert
H.W. Reimer from his family



September 5th 2:15 P.M.

"Because He Lives" in memory of Edwin Rusch
from Gladys & family

September 10th 5:00 P.M. "Whispering Hope" in
honor of their 50th Wedding Anniversary 1996,
from LeRoy & Dorene Wonder

September 11th 8:45 A.M. "God Bless America"
in memory of the NYC terrorist attack

September 11th 8:45 A.M. "America" in memory
of the NYC terrorist attack

September 11th 8:45 A.M. "Stars & Stripes For-
ever" in memory of the NYC terrorist attack

September 11th 8:45 A.M. "Star Spangled Ban-
ner" in memory of the NYC terrorist attack

September 11th 8:45 A.M. "God Be With You 'Til
We Meet Again" in memory of the NYC terrorist
attack

September 16th 6:15 P.M. "You'll Never Walk
Alone" in memory of Kevin Lafrentz from family

September 17th 7:15 P.M. "Amazing Grace" in
memory of Dorothy Jessen from the UCC Choir

September 18th 5:15 P.M. "Now is the Hour" in
memory of Bob Bumann from his family

September 28th 6:15 P.M. "Take My Hand, Pre-
cious Lord" in memory of Marcella Gronau from
her family

September 30th 1:15 P.M. "Lord, Speak to Me"
in honor of our teachers and leaders

September 30th 6:00 P.M. "I Need Thee Every
Hour" in memory of Harwin & Dorothy Jess from
family



3	Bill Brockman
3	Cathy Henningsen
3	Amy Paulsen
3	Quent Strandburg
3	Kallen Hipnar
4	Olivia Novak
5	Samuel Novak
7	Connor Paulsen
8	Josh Boelter
10	Derek Krohnke
12	Malia Potts
14	Renae Barker
15	Rhonda Steuk
16	Regan Krohnke
16	Derek Bielenberg
17	Lisa Holloway
17	Tayten Kline
17	Shelby Meehan
18	Marlyn Kastner
22	Arlo Schwanz
22	Brett McDonald
23	Mark Sedore
26	June Jurgensen
26	Ed Neddermeyer
26	Jhoan Carlo Velasquez
27	Nolan Wiebers
29	Jena McMinemee

September Acolytes

September 1-

June Jurgensen & Taryn Johannsen

September 8-

Jett Paulsen & Haxton Fineran

September 15-

No Worship Service

September 22-

Jayton Bral & Journey Bral

September 29-

Sophia Luth & Jersey Bral

September Greeters

September 1-

Jim & April Stender

September 8-

Dennis & Lorene Reimer

September 15-

No Worship Service

September 22-

Zola Friedrichsen & Vicky Brown

September 29-

John & Arlis Bahnsen

In honor of Schleswig's 125th, we are asking our congregation to attend the Community Worship Service under the big tent uptown at 9 am on Sunday, September 15th.

We will not have a worship service at UCC on September 15th.

July Numbers for the Books

<u>Date</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Contributions</u>
July 7	42	\$ 460.00
July 14	No Church	\$ 0.00
July 21	45	\$ 1378.00
July 28	46	\$ 332.75
<i>Total:</i>	133	\$ 2170.75
<i>Average:</i>	44	\$ 723.58

"We had a lot of fun during our family movie on the 10th! Sunday School kicks off on September 22nd. We are excited for another great year of learning and fellowship!"



Jessica Jurgensen
CE Director



Sign Painting

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 14TH
2:30 PM - 4 PM COME 'N GO
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST BASEMENT

SIGN UP BY AUG. 31 USING THE ONLINE FORM TO SAVE YOUR SPOT! PROCEED GO TO LOCAL MISSIONS.

See you there!

\$30 Includes: a sign to take home, light snacks and refreshments.




Special Congregational Meeting
Sunday, Sept. 8th following worship
We will be voting on the church parking lot project



We have had many opportunities for stewardship gifts other than our support for the church budget this summer.

Generous donations of desserts, attendance and the committee's organization of the Picnic in the Parking Lot in July was evident. It was a great turnout and enjoyable evening.

Again, donations of pot luck food, organization time, and attendance for Church at the Pond. God really blessed us with a beautiful day. So often this spring rain, hail, or wind complicated outdoor plans. We were blessed. What a wonderful opportunity to mingle with fellow congregants and friends as we worshipped God and enjoyed Sunday dinner.

Work Day was a productive day of maintaining the beauty of our church. Thank you to those who helped.

The small group who attended the mission trip to help with flood cleanup in Spencer is to be thanked. They came back with enthusiasm to do another mission like this. Hopefully it will work in more schedules if we do it again – and maybe not quite such a hot, humid day!

It is with mixed feelings that we send Gracie off to college. She provided wonderful snacks each Sunday. She was paid for her efforts but gave above and beyond expectations. But we need to show appreciation to the members who showed up to feed us when she had schedule conflicts and since she moved on. Another chance to “give” to our church.

In the same vein I want to remind you that your turn to greet or acolyte is a chance to serve your church. We have had several Sundays when those positions were vacant. If you have a schedule conflict, it is much appreciated if you trade with someone so those positions are not open.

July Financials



Income:

Weekly envelopes	\$ 2314.00
Loose Offering	\$ 103.75
Seasonal Offering	\$ 8.00
Misc. Offerings	\$ 0.00
Misc. Income	\$ 368.08
Interest Income-Gen. Fund	\$ 8.69
Investment Income	\$ 0.00
Total Income:	\$ 2802.52

Expenses:

Travel & Meetings	\$ 120.00
Insurance & Taxes	\$ 306.13
Janitor Supplies	\$ 271.84
Misc. Expenses	\$ 0.00
Music	\$ 160.00
Office Expense	\$ 593.09
Pastor Expenses	\$ 7489.09
Repairs and Maintenance	\$ 0.00
Supplies	\$ 343.50
Support Staff Salaries	\$ 3165.00
Utilities	\$ 1940.14
Total expense:	\$ 14388.79

Net Ordinary Income \$ - 11,586.27

