



November 2017

Strength for the Day

Editor Ellen

We know God is available for fellowship with any of His 7+ billion children, anytime and anywhere. Whether it's God or you who strikes-up a conversation, God will give you His undivided attention during your time together.

It can be tough for us to be that attentive, given we live in a world chockful of distractions. That said, some places seem to radiate God's ambience. Ambience refers to the mood or feeling created by a specific setting. Have you ever noticed our sanctuary feels different during our Carols, Candles, and Communion worship than on a typical Sunday morning? That's ambience.

You may have heard ambience used to describe a fancy restaurant known for soft lighting, tranquil music, and other features that provide a pleasant, soothing experience. But what is God's ambience?

Would you believe there are places all around us teeming with His ambience. You may not be driven or tempted to visit them, but these spots provide an ideal setting where you can be still and get to know God better (Psalm 46:10). They're usually calm and free of distractions, helping you feel at ease to look up, take a deep breathe, and enjoy the warmth of God's presence.

You may have heard such places called Thin Spots, meaning it feels like only a thin divider exists between God from us. When I'm in a Thin Spot, I can sense the safe, warm embrace of the Father's Arms and almost feel His Hand in mine. Having grown-up in the country, Thin Spots were readily available when I was a child. An area under some pine trees in our east pasture was my favorite Thin Spot, as well as a safe haven.

[cont page 3](#)

The Table: First Course

Michael Schrodt

We Waukee United Methodists hosted our first meal for underserved, local people on Monday, Oct. 23. Twenty-one people enjoyed a hot meal and fellowship with volunteers at the Waukee Community Center. Each of those served expressed their appreciation for our work and is looking forward to our next meal. Those who served the meal were grateful for getting to know some of our fellow community members better.

The leftover chicken and noodles, and mashed potatoes, was boxed and donated to Waukee Area Christian Food Pantry. Each boxed meal was labelled with an invitation for the recipient to join us at The Table the next time we serve.

[cont page 2](#)

Contacts & Times

When an article says to contact someone for more information, see *Contact Info* on the last page. Also, times listed in *The Vine* are p.m., unless noted otherwise.

~Keep Reading~

UMW News...2	Food Pantry Freezer...4
Sunday School Notes...2	F.I.R.E. Youth Group...5
November WUMC Events...2	New Celebration Times...5
Christmas Women's Retreat...3	Flowers for Your Special Day...5
Lunch Bunch...3	Notable November Days...6
Book Talk...3	Gift-Giving Dilemma?...6
Christmas Readings...3	Shine at Winterfest...6
Finding Your Thin Spot...3	The Hanging of the Greens...6
Thanksgiving Ingathering...4	WUMC Christmas Program...6
WACS Donations Needed...4	UMW Bazaar Flyer...8
Trinity Meal Expands...4	Thanksgiving Food Drive...9
Financial Corner...4	

from page 1

I'd like to personally thank to these members of the Table Committee: Trudy Black, Maureen Briles, Stacie DeHaan, Tyler DeHaan, and Lauren Kratz. These folks helped organize and plan The Table's first serving. The 35 volunteers who helped set-up, cook, serve, greet, and clean-up after the event also earned a round of applause. This event was successful thanks to them.

Finally, just as importantly, special thanks to the 71 people who signed-up to volunteer. Although we didn't have enough opportunities for all of you to serve, your willingness shows me our congregation has a passion for serving. The Table Committee looks forward to providing the opportunity for you to serve in the future.

Thank you,
Michael Schrodtt

UMW News

Our United Methodist Women will hold their next meeting on Thursday, Nov. 9 in the fellowship hall. The meeting will begin 9:00 a.m. The agenda includes devotions by Shirley Thomas, a program by our Joyful Noise Singers, and finalizing plans for the bazaar.

All women who attend WUMC are invited to participate in our UMW.

Sunday School Notes

Sunday School will be held in the Green Room on Nov. 12 to help accommodate the Bazaar that day. Children are welcome to join us there at 10 a.m. for popcorn and a movie, or to join you in the sanctuary for the 10:00 celebration.

Also, there will be no Sunday School on Nov. 26 due to Thanksgiving break.

November WUMC Events

- 1 (W) See Wednesday line-up below
✿ No F.I.R.E. youth
Confirmation ~ 6:30
- 2 (Th) Joyful Noise Board ~ 5:00
- 4 (Sa) ✿ November Ingathering
- 5 (Su) Daylight Savings begins
All Saints Day
Communion
✿ F.I.R.E. (middle school) ~ 5:45
FPU ~ 6:00
F.I.R.E. (high school) ~ 7:00
- 6 (M) Mission Quilters ~ 6:30
- 7 (Tu) Celebrations ~ 6:30
- 8 (W) ✿ UMW 9:00 a.m.
See Wednesday Line-Up below
- 9 (Th) Finance ~ 7:00
- 11 (Sa) ✿ Bazaar Set-Up ~ 10:00 a.m.
- 12 (Su) Youth Lead Sunday, 8:30 & 10:00
Tone Chimes Play
Bazaar ~ 10:00 a.m. - 1:00
F.I.R.E. M.S. ~ 5:45
F.I.R.E. H.S. ~ 7:00
FPU 6:00
- 13 (M) ✿ Trinity Meal
Prayer Shawl ~ 6:30
- 15 (W) Confirmation ~ 6:30
- 16 (Th) ✿ Lunch Bunch ~ 11:30 a.m.
Ad Board ~ 7:00
- 19 (Su) Hanging of the Greens ~ 1:00
✿ F.I.R.E. Middle School ~ 5:45
F.I.R.E. High School ~ 7:00
- 20 (M) Trustees ~ 6:30
Mission Quilters ~ 6:30
✿ Book Talk ~ 7:00
- 21 (Tu) SPRT ~ 6:30
- 22 (W) No WUMC activities
- 23 (Th) Happy Thanksgiving
- 26 (Su) ✿ Consecration Sunday
No F.I.R.E. Youth
- 27 (M) Prayer Shawl ~ 6:30
- 29 (W) See Wednesday Line-Up below, no Testaments

Wednesday Line-Up

The following events are scheduled each Wednesday evening, unless noted otherwise:

Wednesday Night Service: meal/fellowship ~ 5:30,
worship ~ 6:00
Kog ~ 6:30 (new time)
Bells ~ 6:30
Choir ~ 7:00
Testaments ~ 8:00

Christmas Women's Retreat

All women who attend WUMC are invited to participate in a mini retreat on Sat., Dec. 2, from 1 – 3. We'll be following the theme: A Contagious Christmas. This event is designed to fill you so full of Christmas joy you'll become contagious.

We hope you'll join us; please sign-up at the Connection Counter (C.C.) For more information, contact Deanne Caudle.



Lunch Bunch

Be a part of the Third Thursday Lunch Bunch on Nov. 16, at the Waukee Pizza Ranch. We'll meet in one of the party rooms at 11:30 for a blessing of thanksgiving, followed by a trip (or two... or three) to the buffet bar and lots of conversation.

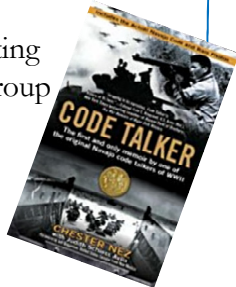
Everyone in our Waukee UMC family is encouraged to be part of the Lunch Bunch.

Book Talk

The book selected for our fall Book Talk is *Code Talker: The First and Only Memoir By One of the Original Navajo Talkers of WWII* by Chester Nez.

The Associated Press reviewer wrote, "You don't need to be a fan of World War II literature to appreciate this memoir...a fascinating mélange of combat in the Pacific theater, the history of the Navajo people and the development of a uniquely American code."

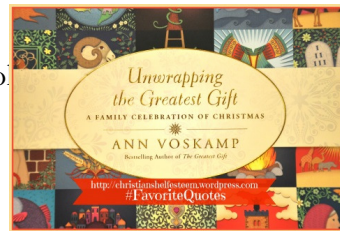
This is sure to be another interesting book, so please read it and join the group for another interesting discussion at 7:00 p.m., Monday, Nov. 21, in Ann and Greg Ruble's home.



Christmas Readings

The holidays are on their way. Check-out the following Advent devotional options on our resource table on Sun. Nov. 12:

Family devotions: Look at *Unwrapping the Greatest Gift* which has a story for each night.



Adult coloring book with devotions: *Mandelas, Candles and Prayers* may be what you're looking for.

Personal devotions: *Why This Jubilee?* is based on Christmas carols.

For **those who are grieving:** *A Decembered Grief* may be a good resource as you go through the holidays.

If you have questions, please contact Deanne.

from page 1

Those trees provided a simple focal point surrounded by natural beauty. The ambience there was so soothing I could experience God's presence via sight, sound, touch, and smell. (Taste...not so much...but four out of five, ain't bad.)

As our world gets louder, busier, and more demanding, Thin Spots may become rarer and more difficult to find. Have faith. They do still exist. As our hours of daylight dwindle and the landscape fades to grey, basking in God's ambience can help you focus on the (proverbial) light at the end of the tunnel.

Find a Thin Spot where you can feel His presence, and be enveloped by God's warmth and light and positive feelings.

Finding Your Thin Spot...

Your Thin Spot can be anywhere you feel safe, at peace, calm, focused, and relaxed. For starters, you could "retreat" to your bathroom, closet, garage, backyard, or office.. You might also want to test the ambience of a local library and/or park, your office, and vehicle. Who knows? Maybe you can invest your time in a check-out line by focusing on God.

Thanksgiving Ingathering

Our Mission Team's goal was to assemble 100 school kits, and thanks to everyone's participation, we reached that goal. We'll be delivering these kits to the Thanksgiving Ingathering in Greenfield on Sat., Nov. 4. Thank you for helping us meet our goal.

WACS Donations Needed

Waukee Area Christian Services is currently looking to bolster their supplies of:

- ☐ canned meals (SpaghettiOs, Ravioli, etc.)
- ☐ canned meats (tuna, chicken, etc.)
- ☐ diapers size 3 and up
- ☐ instant potatoes
- ☐ Jelly
- ☐ juice/juice boxes
- ☐ laundry soap
- ☐ Oatmeal
- ☐ pancake mix & syrup
- ☐ Rice

Information about WACS Thanksgiving Food Drive is shown on page 8.

Trinity Meal Expands

There will be 50 more mouths to feed at the Trinity Supper Club meal we'll serve on Mon., Nov. 13. According to an announcement from Children and Families Urban Movement, we'll have 50 more children to feed because of a new offering in their programming.

CFUM is offering an expanded reading program to children at Moulton Elementary School, which will extend their stay at school. Many of them will likely cross the street to enjoy a good dinner.

Please watch for the donation sign-up sheets at the C.C. at during worship on Nov. 5. We'll need a few more pounds of browned hamburger and jars of jalapenos to help needy folks enjoy a yummy meal of walking tacos.

If you have questions about this mission, please contact Lauren Kratz.

Financial Corner

I wanted to update the congregation on our current budget situation. At the end of August, we were running a deficit of \$26,200. As of the end of September that deficit is now at \$27,500.

Our Finance Team continues to monitor this closely. In addition, none of these numbers reflect giving changes that may have occurred after I spoke about a month ago. The chart below puts this into some context:

	THROUGH AUGUST 2017	THROUGH AUGUST 2016	END OF 2016
GIVING	\$ 230,800.00	\$ 238,800.00	\$ 343,000.00
EXPENSES	\$ 258,300.00	\$ 239,400.00	\$ 324,000.00
DEFICIT	\$ (27,500.00)	\$ (600.00)	\$ 19,000.00

We continue to be optimistic about how 2017 will end. Last year 30% of our total giving for 2016 came in during the final three months. We assume the giving percentage will be about the same this year. If that number holds, we believe the deficit for this year will begin to shrink.

Finance has planned over the years and we do have cash reserves to pay for the deficit and no credit is being used to meet our expenses.

Please prayerfully consider your gifts to our church's operating budget.

Thank you,

Michael Schrodt, on behalf of the Finance Team

If you have questions and comments, please email me at: mbschrodt@msn.com

Food Pantry Freezer

The freezer WUMC purchased for the Waukee Area Christian Services food pantry has been delivered and is in-use. Thanks to your generous donations, we raised \$5000 to purchase this much-needed, deeply appreciated gift.

If you'd like to stop by and see the freezer you helped purchase, the food pantry's hours of operation are posted on their website:

www.waukeechristianservices.org/food-pantry.



What's happening with *F.I.R.E. Wauke UMC Youth Group

Our new Wednesday evening worship service, which starts this month, prompted the following changes to our student ministries schedule.

Wednesday evenings, beginning Nov. 1

5:30 – 6:30 New Worship Service, includes meal

6:30 – 7:30 KoG (grades 3 – 5)

Confirmation students will continue meeting on Wednesdays

Sunday evenings, beginning Nov. 5

5:45 – 6:45 Middle School Students (grades 6 – 8)

7:00 – 8:00 High School Students (grades 9 – 12)

Moving the youth gatherings to Sunday gives our youth the chance to attend the new Wednesday service. It will also allow me to devote at least an hour to each group exclusively, which is critical as we continue to build relationships. Having a full hour also offers sufficient time for activities, devotions, and lessons. Having some open time before and after each youth gathering also allows me to be more accessible to both our youth and their parents.

Although change isn't always easy, please understand we're genuinely interested in helping our youth navigate their faith journey. If we discover this new schedule isn't working well, let me assure you we'll reevaluate.

If you have questions about the new schedule or what our youth are up to, please contact me. We'd love to have you stop by the Green Room for a visit sometime.

Thank you for your ongoing support and prayers,
Pastor Jeff



Help students become disciples of Jesus, who then make more disciples of Jesus

F.I.R.E. Youth Ministry is a ministry of Wauke United Methodist Church that exists to help students Love God, Love Others, and Serve. By doing those things, we can better reach generations in need of a Savior (Jesus Christ).

Our hope and prayer is that, through the many resources that we are so richly blessed with, we can reach out to the students of Wauke and the surrounding area in a loving and caring way, so that they will know that they have a safe place to come to and a leadership team who not only cares for them, but also loves them. While we gather to teach them to be more like Christ today than yesterday, we gather to focus on them Knowing Christ and Living Like Christ.

**Faith Inside of Righteousness on Earth*

New Celebration Times

Effective Wednesday, Nov. 1

Wednesday

5:30 Meal, followed by worship

Sunday

8:30 Traditional Celebration

9:30 Fellowship

10:00 Contemporary Celebration

10:00 Sunday School for all ages



Flowers for Your Special Day.

Having an anniversary, birthday, or just celebrating? If you want to share that day with our church family, sign-up to sponsor a flower bouquet. It's super easy. For \$15, Classic Floral will deliver your bouquet to WUMC, our church family gets to enjoy them that Sunday, and you can take them home after the late service.

The December schedule is now available if you've have waiting to reserve your special day. Please give \$15 for your flowers to Deanne, and if you have questions, contact her.

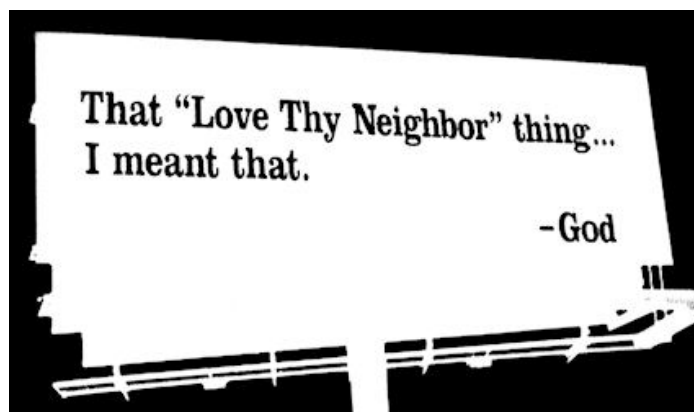
Notable November Days

2 ~ Maci Slaybaugh	17 ~ Erin Bramble
2 ~ Alan Wise	17 ~ Nancy Merhar
6 ~ Matthew Nicholson	17 ~ Kim Timmerman
7 ~ Rich Petersen	18 ~ Darin Rossmann
8 ~ Becca Blackford	19 ~ Lloyd & Rosi Royer
8 ~ Spencer Johnson	19 ~ Rosi Royer
8 ~ Marcella Kerns-Scott	19 ~ Pam Rumelhart
9 ~ Leonard & Pat Gutshall	19 ~ Marcia Tope
9 ~ Jeff & Debi Rodman	22 ~ Emily Olson
9 ~ David & Kim Timmerman	23 ~ Alyssa Hartley
9 ~ Ann Ruble	24 ~ Debbie Lauer
10 ~ Caleb & Shawna Freeze	25 ~ Kaitlyn Tope
11 ~ Chandler Thayer	26 ~ Brad & LuCinda Beltman
12 ~ Kara Boothroyd	26 ~ Emily Erickson
13 ~ Jerry & Sue Steele	26 ~ Sawyer Flack
13 ~ Rick Kyser	26 ~ Tamie Hopper
13 ~ Barb Swaim	27 ~ Darlene Plagmann
13 ~ Russ & Ilyeen Wiesley	29 ~ Phil & Karen Stevens
14 ~ Ann Allen	29 ~ Samantha Felt
15 ~ Aubrey Swaim	30 ~ Kevin & Jennifer Corrigan
15 ~ A.J. Wanned	

Gift-Giving Dilemma?

If you aren't sure what gift to give an aunt, uncle, niece, nephew, child's teacher, Secret Santa friend, etc. Scrip can solve your dilemma. Gift cards for a wide variety of businesses are available, including Target, Wal-Mart, Barnes & Noble, Century Theatres, Jiffy Lube, Menards, Jo-Ann Fabrics, Olive Garden, Subway, Dairy Queen, and a host of others.

Visit the Scrip table in our fellowship area before or after church to see what gift cards are available. You can purchase your gift card(s) there or at our Fall Bazaar on Nov. 12.



Shine at Winterfest

Waukee UMC has been asked to participate in the annual Waukee Winterfest celebration on Dec. 1. There will be many opportunities for you to get involved in making WUMC visible during this event.

Sign-up sheets for set-up, tear-down, soup, servers, and nativity actors will be available at the C.C. soon.



Our sanctuary is always so beautifully decorated at Christmastime. The ambience created helps set the mood for us to celebrate the Birth of God's Son, Jesus Christ.

Please join others in our church family at 1:00 on Sun., Nov. 19, to help adorn WUMC for the Christmas season. Hope to see you there.

WUMC Christmas Program

This year's Christmas Program will be held on Sat. Dec. 9 at 5:30 and Sun., Dec. 10 at 10:00. Our traditional worship service will be held on Sunday morning at 8:30

Join us for an all ages Lessons and Carols program featuring each of our music groups and a traditional Christmas pageant presented by the children of WUMC.

Adults will learn the Lessons and Carols music during regular Wednesday evening rehearsals. The children will learn their pageant and songs during the Sunday School hour and have a dress rehearsal from 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. on Sat., Dec. 2.

If you'd like to sing with the choir, play with the praise band, or help with the children's pageant (including prop making and costuming), please contact Jennifer at jennifersenne@gmail.com or the church office.



Stay Connected



Info about WUMC events is available here:

- **Facebook** – be sure to “like” Waukee United Methodist Church while you’re on Facebook.
- **Weekly church bulletin**
- **The Vine**
- **Waukee Wire** – to subscribe send an email to info@waukeechurch.org
- **Twitter** - search for @waukeechurch
- **WUMC website** - www.waukeechurch.org

7

Contact Info



Church office: 987-4531

Rev. Jamie Cutler: jamie@waukeechurch.org, ext. 202

Pastor Jeff Rodman: jeff@waukeechurch.org, 515-707-7339

Debi Rodman (office admin): debi@waukeechurch.org, ext. 201

Deanne Caudle: deanne@waukeechurch.org, ext. 203

LuCinda Beltman: lucinda@waukeechurch.org, ext. 204 or 987-7710

Ann Ruble: ann@therubleproject.com, 987-1439

Cyndi Craigmile: mcraigmile@aol.com, 987-1973

Pat Gutshall: 515-223-1133, pat.gutshall@mac.com

Jennifer Senne: jennifersenne@gmail.com

Prayer Request: pray@waukeechurch.org

Lauren Kratz: lauren.kratz@wellsfargo.com

WACS: info@WaukeeChristianServices.org

WACS Director (Melissa Stimple): 987-5523

Waukee United Methodist Church

650 Ashworth Dr., Box 26

Waukee, IA 50263



FALL BAZAAR and LUNCHEON

Waukee United Methodist Church
650 Ashworth Drive



SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2017

10 AM – 1 PM

LUNCHEON

Chicken and Noodles
Mashed Potatoes
Green Beans
Bread
Dessert & Drink



Bazaar – free
Lunch

\$ 8 adults

\$ 4 children (12 years and younger – free)

BAZAAR

Crafts (gifts, home décor)
Sweet Shop



PRAYER:

Thanksgiving Share Your Feast

Thanksgiving is just around the corner. Most of us are getting all excited planning for the day to be together and competing as to whom can make the best turkey and pie! Unfortunately, not everyone is so lucky. There are many families that cannot afford a Thanksgiving dinner. What can we do to help them?

The food pantry will be giving families a special Thanksgiving Feast food box and **we need your help to fill them up.**

Please consider donating an item or two or a complete box from the following list.

MOST WANTED

boxed stuffing
boxed potatoes
canned fruit
cream of mushroom soup
french fried onions
saltine crackers
cranberry sauce
canned gravy
corn muffin mix
relishes
canned corn
canned green beans
pumpkin pie filling
boxed pie crust
evaporated milk
grocery store gift cards

thanksgiving FOOD DRIVE

Donations needed by:

November 9th

Drop off at these Waukee locations:

Waukee Hardware - 380 6th St

Fareway - 200 SE Laurel

Westview Church - 1155 SE Boone Dr

Or any of our Partner Churches listed on our website.

Monetary donations needed to help purchase holiday turkeys, hams and other trimmings.

Make checks payable to:

Waukee Area Christian
Services (WACS)

memo: Thanksgiving.



[food pantry](#) [community garden](#) [free clinic](#)

1155 SE Boone Drive • Waukee, IA 50263 • 515.987.5523

www.WaukeeChristianServices.org