

# waukeee

## United Methodist



### ALL SAINTS

*PRECIOUS IN THE SIGHT OF THE LORD IS THE DEATH OF HIS FAITHFUL ONES. PSALM 116:15*

Who passed the faith on to you? In 2 Timothy 1:5 the Apostle Paul says to Timothy, “I am reminded of your sincere faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now...lives in you.” Faith is handed down, in this case, from mother to daughter to son.

All Saints Day, November 1, is a “major feast day” historically in the life of the church (often celebrated the first Sunday in November). It is a day of remembrance for the saints, with the New Testament meaning of all Christian people of every time and place. We celebrate the communion of saints as we remember the dead, both of the Church universal and of our local congregations. So we solemnly read the names of those who have died and light a candle for them. We will do that this Sunday, November 6 for our saints who have died this year: Patricia Coffey (May 29), Harriet Hawbaker (June 23), and Winifred Johnson (September 13).

Still, All Saints isn’t only about those who have died. While we recognize those Christians who have gone before us, it also gives us the opportunity to ask how we should live as saints now (remember the New Testament understanding of “saints” includes all Christian people of every time and place). Therefore, how do we intend to pass on the faith to future generations of Christians?

All Saints is actually in the middle of a three day period of celebration and remembrance called Allhallowtide. The first day is All Hallows’ Evening. That’s where we get Halloween (though the modern secular holiday is much different!). The word “hallow” as a verb means to set apart as holy. But it is also a noun, referring to a holy person, or a saint. Like Christmas Eve, Christians traditionally celebrated All Saints with a vigil the evening before.

All Saints Day is then followed by a lesser known day, All Souls Day on November 2. Whereas All Saints traditionally was a day to celebrate the well-known heroes of the faith, All Souls was a day to remember specifically our own loved ones who have faithfully lived and died. Today, most Protestants (Western Christian Churches separate from the Roman Catholic Church) have merged All Souls into one All Saints celebration.

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#### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- All Saints Sunday is November 6
- Church Conference is at 3:30 PM on November 13
- Trinity Meal will be November 21





## DO THE MATH

The book of Exodus tells the story about building the Tabernacle, the sanctuary for God's presence to dwell. The people whose hearts were stirred and whose spirits were willing brought their offerings for the Tabernacle and all its service. The people kept bringing their offerings every morning until the workers told Moses the people had given more than enough to complete the work the Lord had commanded. So Moses told the people they had given enough. In fact, they needed to stop giving because there was too much. The people had to be restrained from giving more! (Exodus 25, 35, 36)

This story exemplifies generous giving to God's kingdom. Unfortunately, it also calls into questions how we use our money today.

Charitable giving has remained stuck in our country at 2% for fifty years. That accurately reflects the average giving in The United Methodist Church, too. This is significantly different from scripture teaching us to give to God first, to give generously and cheerfully, and to give 10% of our income.

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### *A meeting at the kitchen table*

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When I was a new pastor serving my first, full-time appointment, my wife, Joy, and I had only been married a few years. Like many young couples, we were struggling financially. I remember well when we decided to have a money meeting at the kitchen table. We did the math. We looked at the numbers to know exactly how much income we were receiving and how much we were called to give for God's kingdom. It was there that we made the decision to commit our money to God. We literally got on our knees at the kitchen table and asked God to help us handle the money entrusted to us in a faithful way. We committed to tithing, giving 10% of our income to the church. Our financial situation didn't completely change overnight, but it did begin to change for the better.

That was more than twenty-five years ago, but because of that kitchen table meeting we have lived with no debt except the mortgage on our home. While the budget adjusts each year, we give 10-15% of my income to the church. And we're increasing our giving for this next year. Is it difficult to give away such a big percentage of income? It's not about whether it's tough or easy. It's simply about intentionally choosing how to use our money.

So the first thing we intentionally choose each month is to give in response to God's abundant grace in our lives. We give, as Jesus and the church have taught us, because it supports the church's mission. And we give so that we are not defined by our money, so that we are not captive to our wealth. Clearly, God's way is different than the worlds.

How have you decided to give to God's kingdom? Have you done the math? Have a meeting at the kitchen table and do the math. Are you giving 2% or closer to 10%? If our congregation is going to thrive and be fruitful, then we need the resources to accomplish our mission. Let's grow together and fund God's work through our church until we too have to be restrained from giving more.

Grace and peace to you,

John Louk

## NOVEMBER CALENDAR

1	Tu	11:00 AM	Staff Meeting
2	W	6:00 PM	Kids of God (KoG)
		6:15 PM	Confirmation
		6:45 PM	Kids & Youth Meal
		7:15 PM	Youth Group
		7:15 PM	Choir Rehearsal
3	Th	7:00 PM	Thursday Evening Women's Group
		7:30 PM	Band Rehearsal
6	Su	8:30 AM	Sunday School
		9:30 AM	Sunday Worship
			All Saints Day
			Communion Sunday
9	W	9:00 AM	United Women of Faith
		6:00 PM	KoG
		6:15 PM	Confirmation
		6:45 PM	Kids & Youth Meal
		7:15 PM	Youth Group
		7:15 PM	Choir Rehearsal
10	Th	7:30 PM	Band Rehearsal
13	Su	8:30 AM	Sunday School
		9:30 AM	Sunday Worship
		3:30 PM	Charge Conference
14	M	10:00 AM	Prayer Shawl
15	Tu	12:00 PM	Staff Meeting
		6:30 PM	SPRT
16	W	6:00 PM	KoG
		6:15 PM	Confirmation
		6:45 PM	Kids & Youth Meal
		7:15 PM	Youth Group
		7:15 PM	Choir Rehearsal
17	Th	11:30 AM	Lunch Bunch
		6:30 PM	Administrative Council
		7:30 PM	Band Rehearsal
20	Su	8:30 AM	Sunday School
		9:30 AM	Sunday Worship
			Confirmation Sunday

## BUILDING UPDATE

October has been full of visible progress. The building was painted, trees and bushes were planted, and light poles were erected. Along with all that, there was a lot going on inside the church too. Most of the wall studs have been placed and the HVAC, plumbing, electrical, and sprinkler system work has begun. That work will continue through November so there won't be much to see from the outside. Something that will be apparent, however, will be the placement of the windows, which are to be installed the week of October 31.



21	M	5:30 PM	Finance
		7:00 PM	Trustees
			Trinity Meal
23	W		No Wednesday Evening Activities
24	Th		Office Closed
25	F		Office Closed
27	Su	8:30 AM	Sunday School
		9:30 AM	Sunday Worship
28	M	10:00 AM	Prayer Shawl
30	W	6:00 PM	KoG
		6:15 PM	Confirmation
		6:45 PM	Kids & Youth Meal
		7:15 PM	Youth Group
		7:15 PM	Choir Rehearsal

## NOVEMBER CELEBRATIONS

Gayle McDowell	1
Maci Slaybaugh	2
Alan Wise	2
Rich Petersen	4
Ronald Mills	7
Becca Blackford	8
Spencer Johnson	8
Joanne Colacecchi	8
Leonard & Pat Gutshall	9
David & Kim Timmerman	9
Ann Ruble	9
Darcy Wold	11
Kara Boothroyd	12
Jerry & Sue Steele	13
Russ & Ilyeen Weisley	13
Barb Swaim	13
Rick Kyser	13
Ann Allen	14
A.J. Wanned	15
Aubrey Swaim	15
Kim Timmerman	17
Nancy Merhar	17
Marcia Tope	19
Rosi Royer	19
Pam Rumelhart	19
Jared Hemphill	19
Emily Olson	22
Debbie Lauer	24
Lee Hovda	24
Karen Mills	24
Kaitlyn Tope	25
Emily Colwell	25
Tamie Hopper	26
Sawyer Flack	26
Darlene Plagmann	27
Jill Hemphill	27
Samantha Felt	29
Emily Baliga	29
Kevin & Jennifer Corrigan	30

## BOOK TALK

We will be discussing *Beneath the Polish Moon* by Iowa author Jake Kaminski at 2:00 PM on Monday, November 14 at Ann and Greg Ruble's home.

The novel follows Luke Karpinski as he grows up in Milwaukee, becomes an undercover cop in Miami, and then, old and alone, returns to Milwaukee and an opportunity he never expected. It promises to be another interesting discussion.



## LUNCH BUNCH

You are invited to join members of your church family around the table on Thursday, November 17 at 11:30 AM at the Waukee Pizza Ranch. We're grateful for a place to meet and eat, so while you're there, tell the Pizza Ranch crew thank you for letting us use one of their party rooms each month!

## UNITED WOMEN OF FAITH

The next meeting of the UWF will be at the parsonage at 9:00 AM on Wednesday, November 9th. The hostesses are Brenda Brock and Mary Dunsmoor, and the devotions will be by Judy Marshall. The program will be by Michaela Craigmile about baking.



United  
Women  
in Faith

Iowa Annual Conference of  
The United Methodist Church





## CHURCH CONFERENCE NOVEMBER 13

Our Church Conference, the annual meeting of the church is Sunday, November 13 at 3:30 PM at Ankeny First United Methodist Church's Christian Life Center (710 NE 36th St., Ankeny, IA 50021). This annual meeting will be held concurrently with several other congregations. It is an open meeting with all members having vote. Some of the biggest official decisions voted on at the Church Conference are the congregation's mission and ministry plan for 2023 and the pastor's salary. All information will be available to the congregation.

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*November is a busy month in the life of the church!*

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## THE KINGDOM OF GOD HAS COME NEAR WORSHIP SERIES

In November we come to the end of Ordinary Time and the end of the Christian year. The focus this month is the Kingdom of God, with All Saints (reading the names of those who have died this past year), a beautiful picture of God's kingdom, and a celebration of Christ the King. On November 20 we will celebrate Confirmation Sunday as several young people join up to serve in God's kingdom! Come and worship!

### **Nov 6 All Saints Sunday**

Luke 20:27-38                      The Question about the Resurrection

Holy Communion

Reading the Names of Those Who Have Died

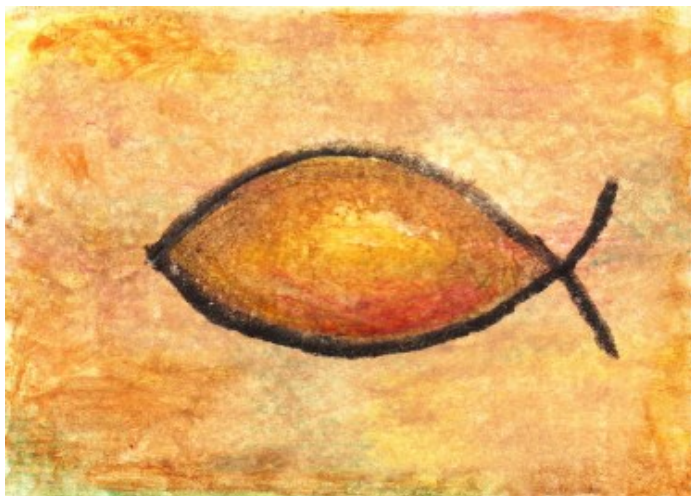
### **Nov 13 A Beautiful Picture of the Kingdom of God**

Isaiah 65:17-25                      The Glorious New Creation

### **Nov 20 Christ the King and Confirmation Sunday**

Luke 23:33-43                      The Crucifixion of Jesus

### **Nov 27 First Sunday of Advent!**



## WE ARE BUILDING!

Until our new Worship Center is complete on LA Grant Parkway in Waukee, we invite you to worship with us in person on **Sundays at 9:30 AM** at our temporary location at **South Middle School**.

You can also find our worship service at **waukeechurch.life**, **Facebook**, or **YouTube**.

## TRINITY MEAL

The next Trinity Meal will be Monday, November 21. We haven't decided what to serve, so keep an eye on the Weekly Wire and the Next Steps videos for more information. You can plan on bringing in clean plastic grocery bags and pop tabs for Ronald McDonald House with you to church on Sunday, November 20.



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