

**BIRTHDAYS**

1 – Tricia Polzin	11 – Bill Kem
4 – Jim Williams	13 – McKenna Kruger
5 – Darrin Waller	16 – Terry Howieson
8 – Lindsay Watne	21 – Eden Polzin
8 – Ryan Watne	21 – Greg Chapman
	30 – Frances Kem

**GREETERS**

03-Brooke & Adam Nerlien  
 10-Karen Wason & Diane O'Connor  
 17-Pauline & Bob Rier  
 24-Carol & Greg Chapman

**COMMITTEE OF THE MONTH**

\*Becky & Rob Steiner  
 Malinda & Terry Howieson  
 Anna & Jim Williams

**ACOLYTE**

Kaeden Langfitt

**USHERS**

Chris Bro  
 Rob Steiner

Church Friends and Family,

November 2019 newsletter

November is the time when many churches talk about stewardship. Our churches are no different; we usual talk about this topic at this time of the year. The stewardship of our time, talent and finances is important for the individual to reach their potential and it is important for the church to do the same.

Sometimes it is helpful when people hear from a different voice than the usual one. What a new voice might say or even how they say it, may speak to someone. I would like to share the following letter written by Warren Clausen. Warren has served many positions at the UCCC and is the current Chairman of the Trustees.

*Random thoughts on stewardship*

*In the last 2 months I have heard two different pastors comment about unique talents. Recently we had 5 new members join our church. Pastor Bill commented that those new members bring new talents to our church family and all of our existing church family has their own talents too. They are spiritual gifts that God has given us to use.*

*In Matthew 25 verses 14-30 is the parable of the 3 servants. A master gave different amounts to each servant according to their ability. The spiritual gifts God gives us are according to our abilities too. How are we using those talents that God has given us?*

*What is your vision of United Church of Christ Congregational (or United Presbyterian Church) 3, 5 or maybe 10 years down the road? How can you use your time and talents to realize that vision?*

*Obviously a church can't survive without financial commitments from the church family, but there are so many other ways to enrich our church family. Those may include; administration, leadership, teaching, craftsmanship, faith, healing, helping, music, praying, Women's Fellowship.*

*Please prayerfully consider how you can use your giving, time and unique talents to enrich and grow our church.  
 Warren Clausen, Board of Trustees*

Amen. Thanks Warren for your wise words.

Sincerely,

Pastor Bill

Session Minutes  
United Presbyterian Church  
Clarion, Iowa  
October 9, 2019

The stated meeting of the Session was held Wednesday, October 9, 2019, at 7:00 p.m. in the Conference Room. Those in attendance: Peg Bunn, Mark Fisher, Mary Kallem, Karen Wason, Deb Olson, Clerk, and Rev. Bill Kem, Moderator. Rev. Kem opened with devotions and prayer.

**TEASURER'S REPORT:** Session voted to approve the Treasurer's Report. \$10,000.00 was moved from the General Fund and placed in a Pastoral Housing Fund. This \$10,000.00 plus approximately \$35,000.00 from the Endowment Fund will be placed in a liquid investment fund.

**CLERK'S REPORT:** Session voted to approve the September Minutes. It was approved by Session to allow Iowa Specialty Hospital the use of our building Wednesday, October 30, 8:30 – 3:30 and Thursday, October 31. The fee for use of our building for a nonmember will be reviewed.

The Sexual Misconduct Policy was reviewed.

Communion was observed on World Day of Communion, October 6.

Rev. Kem will send a letter and contact potential new members. A Service of Welcoming and Public Profession of Faith for new members will be held Sunday, November 24.

**PASTOR'S REPORT:** Mr. and Mrs. Che Hanson donated a hog to our church to be used for those who are in need of food.

A container to recycle batteries will be placed in our church.

Session approved hosting the Tuesday, March 3, 2020, Presbytery Meeting, 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. Rev. Kem will find out if a meal needs to be provided.

Landon Kakacek will be confirmed and will continue to attend classes.

Discussion was held concerning the most cost effective and efficient method of purchasing church supplies. A Sam's Club membership costs \$45.00 a year for 2 people listed on the card and is tax exempt. Rev. Kem will discuss this with Nancy Reyna for further information.

Rev. Kem serves communion and shares devotions at the Care Center and the Meadows in October.

Rev. Kem is on a wait list for the Richmond, Virginia, Creda Conference for pastors.

As a member of the Presbytery Committee on Ministry, Rev. Kem has been involved in helping several churches in our Presbytery.

The United Church of Christ Congregational (UCCC) will perform a Christmas cantata at 11:00, December 15. The joint Christmas Eve Service will be at the UCCC. The Sunday School Christmas Program will be at the UCCC. The UCCC will have a sunrise service on Easter Sunday, and the United Presbyterian Church (UPC) will have a 9:00 service.

**DEACONS:** The Backpack Program will continue as it has in the past, with the addition of providing either fresh milk, meat, fruits, or vegetables once a month.

**PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN:** The Harvest Ham Ball Dinner will be October 20.

**ADVENT TEAM:** Hanging of the Greens will be Sunday, November 24, following a free will offering brunch, of which the proceeds will go towards defraying the cost of attending church camp. The Team is inviting church members to share their angels as decorations during Advent. Caroling is being discussed.

**MISSIONS TEAM:** The McCurry family, presently working in Kenya, is being considered as an option for mission support.

**NOMINATING TEAM:** The Team has contacted 2 church members to serve as an Elder and a Deacon.

**ORDINARY TEAM:** Due to inclement weather, the hayride has been changed to a bonfire on Sunday, October 13, 4:00 p.m. at the Kallem farm.

**PERSONNEL TEAM:** Rev. Kem will contact members of the Team to schedule a meeting to recommend a pastor compensation package and other staff salary recommendations.

**PROPERTY TEAM:** Ted Bunn installed new door closures on the front doors. The doors open easier and are able to remain open.

**STEWARDSHIP TEAM:** Peg and Mark will serve on the Team in their second year as an Elder. The Team will meet at 12:30, October 10, to prepare a budget.

**SESSION ASSIGNMENTS:** Rev. Kem – obtain more information about the McCurry's mission work

- contact possible new members
- pick up hog at locker
- visit with Nancy about church supplies
- call Malinda about the hayride
- call Personnel Team to schedule meeting
- inquire about the need for a meal for the Presbytery Meeting
- Mary – Advent info to Nancy

Rev Kem closed the meeting with prayer at 8:39 p.m.

### **Property Team Report 9/25/2019**

Property team meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm.

Present were Keith Bell, Peg Bunn, Bob Rier, and Ted Bunn.

Recent improvements to the building were discussed.

New door closers have been installed on the front doors which enable the doors to be opened much easier. There is a minor issue with the alignment of the doors. They fit tighter at the top than the bottom making the doors slightly harder to open in periods of hot weather. We will monitor this condition for future changes.

We will contact Rick Rasmussen and Clarence Willey to verify fall spraying and snow removal as soon as it becomes necessary.

We thanked Keith Bell for taking care of building maintenance as problems arise and Karen Chapman for taking care of the flowers around the sign in front of the building.

There were no other items the team are aware of that need attention at this time.

Submitted 8/26/2019 – Ted Bunn

### **ANGELS ANGELS ANGELS**

Do you have any extra angels around your house? The Advent Team would like to borrow or have you donate any angel figurines to the church during the Advent season. We will be using them on the tables in the Fellowship Hall. If you have one that we can use please put your name on the bottom so that we know to whom they are belong. Have them to the church by November 24<sup>th</sup>.

### **HANGING OF THE GREENS**

Can you believe it's time to start thinking about Christmas?! The Advent Team has be working already making plans to make our sanctuary and the rest of the church look beautiful for the Christmas season. We will have the traditional Hanging Of The Greens on Sunday November 24. We are planning to have a brunch following the worship service that morning with a free will offering taken to help our kids pay for camp next summer. Following the brunch we invite you to stay to help make our church beautiful! It's so much fun to work together with your church family just as it is to decorate your home with the help of your own family. We are hoping many will decide to stay and help us prepare for Christmas.

# November 2019

November 2019							December 2019						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
							29	30	31				

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Oct 27	28	29	30	31	Nov 1	2
3 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">Sunday School 10:15</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">Worship 9 am</div>	4	5 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">Blood Drive 1 - 6 pm</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">Prayer Group 10 am</div>	6 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">Early Risers 6 am</div>	7	8	9
10 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">Connection Sunday</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">Sunday School 10:15</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">Worship 9 am</div>	11	12 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">Prayer Group 10 am</div>	13 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">Deacon Mtg 6 pm</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">Early Risers 6 am</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">Session Mtg 7 pm</div>	14	15	16
17 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">Celebration of Communion</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">Sunday School 10:15</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">Worship 9 am</div>	18	19 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">Prayer Group 10 am</div>	20 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">Early Risers 6 am</div>	21	22	23
24 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">Sunday School 10:15</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">Worship 9 am</div>	25	26 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">Prayer Group 10 am</div>	27 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">Early Risers 6 am</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">Mission Mtg</div>	28 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">Communion at the Meadows 9:45</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">Thanksgiving Day</div>	29	30