

NOVEMBER 2024



NOVEMBER



11/2 Dan Solie
11/5 Tycho Talbot
11/8 David Rohwer
11/18 Susan Carothers
11/21 Larry Johnson
11/25 Lynne Krizek
11/26 Lois Hildenbrand
11/28 Donna Davidson
11/29 Jim Durst

If your Birthday or Anniversary is missing, incorrect, or if you do not wish to have it posted in the Newsletter please contact the UCPC Office.

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UCPC Community Care Line

"We invite all to faith in Jesus Christ and growth in Discipleship through Word, Prayer, and Service."

A Note from the Pastor

Dear UCPC family,

The month of November brings about the start of a busy holiday season which for many people is a time full of joy and giddy excitement. But for just as many people, this time of the year also brings up grief, pain, and sadness about the people no longer sitting at the holiday tables next to us. There is no way around this season being incredibly difficult, especially in the first year or two after the death of a loved one. But I'd like to offer you this prayer to pray with yourself or with others, or to pass on to someone you think may benefit from having something like this in their pocket.

This is a prayer of thanksgiving that acknowledges the pain many of us carry during the holidays. It comes from *A Concord Pastor Comments*. The author writes: "For those who are grieving the loss of a loved one, Thanksgiving and "the holidays" can be a particularly difficult time. Prayer can offer us a path through these days and opportunities for healing...."

A Prayer at an Empty Chair

Dear God,

There's an empty chair at our table, an ache in our hearts and tears upon our faces...

We try to shield one another from our grief but we cannot hide it from you...

We pray for...(name your loved one)
whose presence we miss in these homecoming days...

Open our eyes and our hearts to the healing, the warmth and the peace of your presence...

Assure us that those we miss
have a home in your heart as well as in ours and a place at your table forever...

Open our hearts to joyful memories of the love we shared with those who have gone before us...

Help us tell the stories that bring us close to one another and to the ones we miss so much...

Teach us to lean on you and on each other for the strength we need to walk through difficult times...

Give us quiet moments with you, with our thoughts, with our memories and our prayers...

And in the stillness of the quiet,
give us your consolation and your peace...

Be with us and hold us in your arms as you hold the ones we miss...

This is the day you have made, O Lord:

help us rejoice and be glad in the peace you've promised and share with those who've gone before us...

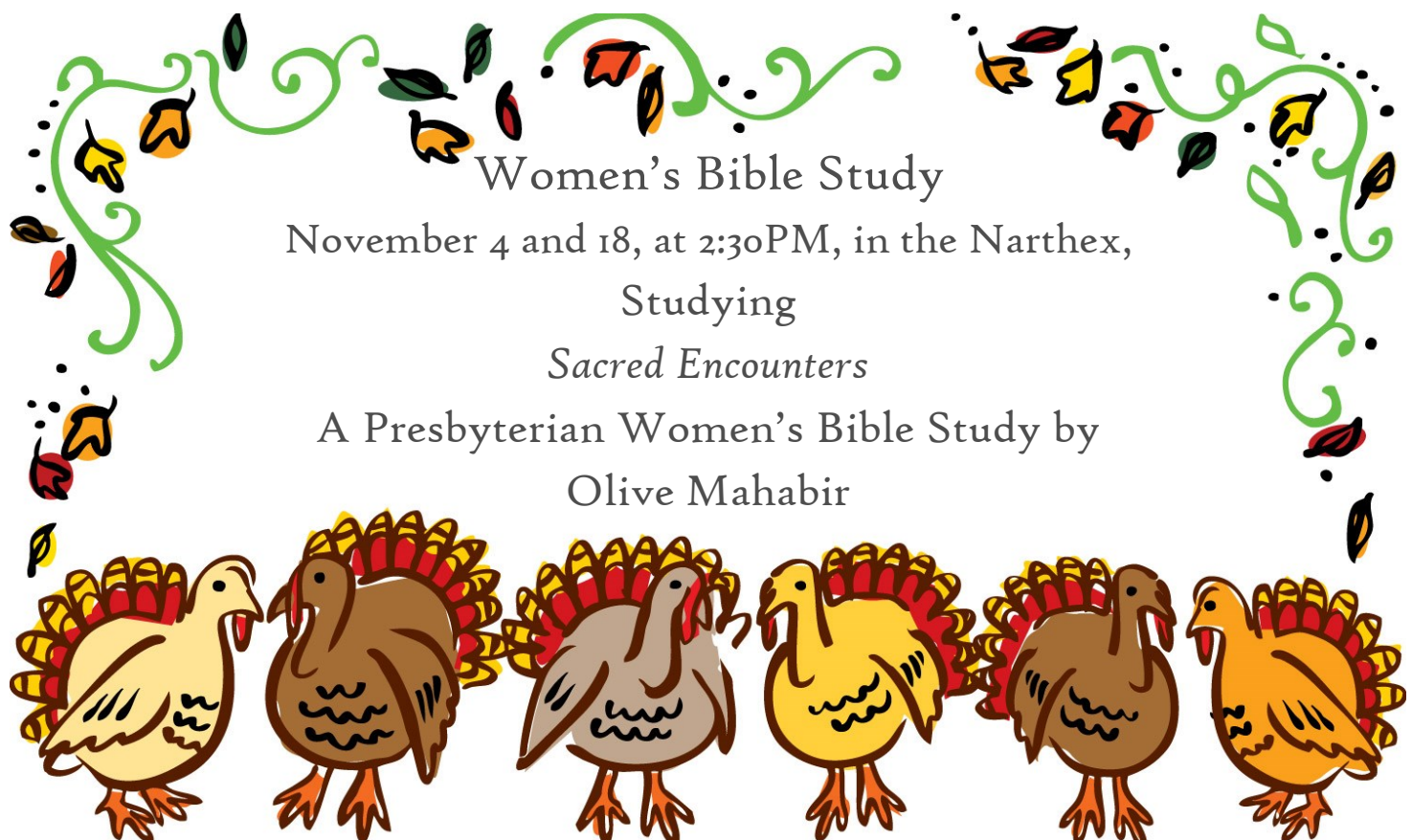
Amen.

I am praying for you all in the joy- and tear-filled moments of the coming season. Please reach out if you need support. I am here for you, I am just not telepathic and therefore will likely not always know when you need some extra love and presence. So please do let me know! You are not a burden or weak for reaching out. You are strong.

My love to you all,

Pastor Erika Bergh

Source Link: <http://concordpastor.blogspot.com/2012/11/praying-10-minutes-day-thanksgiving-2012.html>





November 2024



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27 Reformation Sunday 9:30am - 10:15am Adult Bible Study (FH) 10:30am - 11:30am <u>Worship Service (S)</u> 2:00pm - 4:00pm Grace Church (S) 6:00pm - 7:00pm 12 Step (MR)	28 11:00am - 5:00pm Laurie Long (HS) 12:00pm - 6:00pm Cello Charly (MR)	29 6:30am - 7:30am Men's Bible Study (N) 12:00pm - 6:00pm Cello Charly (MR) 6:30pm - 8:00pm Boy Scouts (CE) 6:30pm - 9:00pm Great Land Sounds (MR) 8:00pm - 10:00pm 12 Step AA (L)	30 11:00am - 5:00pm Laurie Long (HS) 12:00pm - 6:00pm Cello Charly (MR) 5:30pm - 6:45pm Choir Practice (MR) 6:00pm - 7:00pm Girl Scouts (L) 6:00pm - 9:00pm Red Hackle Pipe Band (CE)	31 11:00am - 4:30pm Cello Charly (MR) 5:30pm - 6:30pm 12 Step (HS) 6:00pm - 9:30pm Grace Church (MR & FH Classrooms) 6:30pm - 9:00pm Sweet Adelines (CE Basement)	1 All Saints Day 2:00pm - 4:00pm <u>Four Winds (MR)</u> 6:30pm - 9:30pm <u>Grace Church (MR)</u> 8:00pm - 10:00pm <u>12 Step NA (L)</u>	2 1:00pm - 4:00pm D & D (FH Classroom) 1:30pm - 4:30pm Cello Recital (S) 5:30pm - 9:00pm Sanders Memorial (S then FH)
3 Daylight-Saving Time Ends 9:30am - 10:15am Adult Bible Study (FH) 10:30am - 11:30am <u>Worship Service (S)</u> 2:00pm - 4:00pm <u>Grace Church (S)</u> 6:00pm - 7:00pm 12 Step (MR)	4 11:00am - 5:00pm Laurie Long (HS) 12:00pm - 6:00pm Cello Charly (MR) 2:30-3:30pm <u>Women's Bible Study (N)</u> 5:00pm - 6:00pm <u>Sound Team Meeting (S)</u>	5 6:30am - 7:30am <u>Men's Bible Study (N)</u> 12:00pm - 6:00pm Cello Charly (MR) 6:30pm - 8:00pm <u>Boy Scouts (CE)</u> 6:30pm - 9:00pm Great Land Sounds (MR) 8:00pm - 10:00pm 12 Step AA (L)	6 11:00am - 5:00pm Laurie Long (HS) 12:00pm - 6:00pm Cello Charly (MR) 5:30pm - 6:45pm <u>Choir Practice (MR)</u> 6:00pm - 7:00pm <u>Girl Scouts (L)</u> 6:00pm - 9:00pm Red Hackle Pipe Band (CE)	7 11:00am - 4:30pm Cello Charly (MR) 5:30pm - 6:30pm 12 Step (HS) 5:30pm - 7:00pm <u>Deacons Meeting (CR)</u> 6:00pm - 9:30pm <u>Grace Church (MR & FH Classrooms)</u> 6:30pm - 9:00pm Sweet Adelines (CE Basement)	8 2:00pm - 4:00pm <u>Four Winds (MR)</u> 6:30pm - 9:30pm <u>Grace Church (MR)</u> 8:00pm - 10:00pm <u>12 Step NA (L)</u>	9 1:00pm - 4:00pm D & D (FH Classroom)
10 9:30am - 10:15am Adult Bible Study (FH) 10:30am - 11:30am <u>Worship Service with Communion (S)</u> 12:00pm - 2:00pm ANNUAL MEETING (FH) 2:00pm - 4:00pm <u>Grace Church (S)</u> 6:00pm - 7:00pm 12 Step (MR)	11 11:00am - 5:00pm Laurie Long (HS) 12:00pm - 6:00pm Cello Charly (MR)	12 6:30am - 7:30am <u>Men's Bible Study (N)</u> 12:00pm - 6:00pm Cello Charly (MR) 6:30pm - 8:00pm <u>Boy Scouts (CE)</u> 6:30pm - 9:00pm Great Land Sounds (MR) 8:00pm - 10:00pm 12 Step AA (L)	13 10:00am - 11:00am <u>Mission & Outreach</u> 11:00am - 5:00pm Laurie Long (HS) 12:00pm - 6:00pm Cello Charly (MR) 4pm - 5:30pm <u>Worship Committee (CR)</u> 5:30pm - 6:45pm <u>Choir Practice (MR)</u> 6:00pm - 7:00pm <u>Girl Scouts (L)</u> 6:00pm - 9:00pm Red Hackle Pipe Band (CE)	14 11:00am - 4:30pm Cello Charly (MR) 5:30pm - 6:30pm 12 Step (HS) 6:00pm - 9:30pm <u>Grace Church (MR & FH Classrooms)</u> 6:30pm - 9:00pm Sweet Adelines (CE Basement)	15 2:00pm - 4:00pm <u>Four Winds (MR)</u> 6:30pm - 9:30pm <u>Grace Church (MR)</u> 8:00pm - 10:00pm <u>12 Step NA (L)</u>	16 6:00am - 10:00am Grace Church (FH and K) 10:00am - 12:00pm Sweet Adelines (CE) 1:00pm - 4:00pm D & D (FH Classroom)
17 9:30am - 10:15am Adult Bible Study (FH) 10:30am - 11:30am <u>Worship Service (S)</u> 2:00pm - 4:00pm <u>Grace Church (S)</u> 6:00pm - 7:00pm 12 Step (MR)	18 11:00am - 5:00pm Laurie Long (HS) 12:00pm - 6:00pm Cello Charly (MR) 2:30-3:30pm <u>Women's Bible Study (N)</u> 5:15pm <u>Finance (CR)</u>	19 6:30am - 7:30am <u>Men's Bible Study (N)</u> 12:00pm - 6:00pm Cello Charly (MR) 6:30pm - 8:00pm <u>Boy Scouts (CE)</u> 6:30pm - 9:00pm Great Land Sounds (MR) 8:00pm - 10:00pm 12 Step AA (L)	20 11:00am - 5:00pm Laurie Long (HS) 12:00pm - 6:00pm Cello Charly (MR) 5:30pm - 6:45pm <u>Choir Practice (MR)</u> 6:00pm - 7:00pm <u>Girl Scouts (L)</u> 6:00pm - 9:00pm Red Hackle Pipe Band (CE)	21 11:00am - 4:30pm Cello Charly (MR) 5:30pm - 6:30pm 12 Step (HS) 6:00pm - 9:30pm <u>Grace Church (MR & FH Classrooms)</u> 6:30pm <u>Session (SL)</u> 6:30pm - 9:00pm Sweet Adelines (CE Basement)	22 2:00pm - 4:00pm <u>Four Winds (MR)</u> 6:30pm - 9:30pm <u>Grace Church (MR)</u> 8:00pm - 10:00pm <u>12 Step NA (L)</u>	23 1:00pm - 4:00pm D & D (FH Classroom)
24 9:30am - 10:15am Adult Bible Study (FH) 10:30am - 11:30am <u>Worship Service (S)</u> 2:00pm - 4:00pm <u>Grace Church (S)</u> 6:00pm - 7:00pm 12 Step (MR)	25 11:00am - 5:00pm Laurie Long (HS) 12:00pm - 6:00pm Cello Charly (MR)	26 6:30am - 7:30am <u>Men's Bible Study (N)</u> 12:00pm - 6:00pm Cello Charly (MR) 6:30pm - 8:00pm <u>Boy Scouts (CE)</u> 6:30pm - 9:00pm Great Land Sounds (MR) 8:00pm - 10:00pm 12 Step AA (L)	27 11:00am - 5:00pm Laurie Long (HS) 12:00pm - 6:00pm Cello Charly (MR) 5:30pm - 6:45pm <u>Choir Practice (MR)</u> 6:00pm - 7:00pm <u>Girl Scouts (L)</u> 6:00pm - 9:00pm Red Hackle Pipe Band (CE)	28 Thanksgiving Day 11:00am - 4:30pm Cello Charly (MR) 5:30pm - 6:30pm 12 Step (HS) 6:00pm - 9:30pm <u>Grace Church (MR & FH Classrooms)</u> 6:30pm - 9:00pm Sweet Adelines (CE Basement)	29 2:00pm - 4:00pm <u>Four Winds (MR)</u> 6:30pm - 9:30pm <u>Grace Church (MR)</u> 8:00pm - 10:00pm <u>12 Step NA (L)</u>	30 1:00pm - 4:00pm D & D (FH Classroom)

Building and Grounds Update



An awning roof has been built over the new exterior door to protect it from rain and falling ice. (This picture was taken before the metal roofing was added. The awning is now complete...but Melissa didn't get outside to take a picture before the snow arrived!)

Thanks to Jeremy and crew from H.E.R. Inc for their good work!



Jams and Jellies for Christian Mission

Christian Motorcyclists Association has been in existence since the mid seventies and has now grown from small beginnings in Arkansas to over 1000 active chapters in the US and activities in many countries worldwide. International headquarters is in Hatfield AR serving both the US and all other active areas across the world. Funding for leadership and evangelists is raised by donations from members. Support for mission activities comes from the "Run for the Son" project on an annual basis. Each chapter makes plans to support mission expenses as much as it can. Last year, US chapters raised over \$6 million which was shared with 60% going to international mission activities and 40% for national events and outreach. 100% of the \$6 million went to Christian missions. Dollars for salaries and facilities come from other sources. Lois Hildenbrand works during the summer to make a range of jams and jellies which are sold to support "Run for the Son," so your purchase of jam or jelly at Presbytery or over the past few Sundays not only gets you something tasty to put on your morning toast, but also aid the CMA. Lois will also be selling her products at the Fairbanks Lutheran's fall bazaar on November 2.

Winter Events

(Save the Dates!)

11/3—All Saints' Day; Annual Report available for review;
Change clocks!

11/10—Worship Service with Communion; Annual Congrega-
tional Meeting (lunch provided)

11/24—Thanksgiving Potluck AND Mission Faire at
4:30PM

11/30—Decorate for Advent

12/1—First Sunday of Advent

12/8—Worship Service with Communion

12/24—Christmas Eve service—time TBA

1/12/25—Worship Service with Communion

1/5 or 12—Install/Ordain new Elders and Deacons

1/11—Undecorate Christmas (?)

Some of these events have more in-
formation elsewhere in this news-
letter, others will be explained fur-
ther in the newsletter for the
month they will occur.



THE EARTH HAS
YIELDED ITS
INCREASE;
GOD, OUR GOD,
HAS BLESSED US.

P S A L M 67:6

SHOUT
OUT
The Building Stewards for
ALL they do to keep



★ The following are the draft minutes of the October 17, 2024, Session meeting. The various committee reports
★
★ can be obtained by calling the church office at (907) 479-6728 or contacting admin@ucpcfairbanks.org.

Rental Rates: It was moved and seconded to approve the request from Sound Team to **add funerals to**

the rental rates, at the same rate as weddings (\$200 per occurrence) and the Admin Assistant's request to add a 1/2-day high school classroom rate of \$40.00 to the 2024 rental rate sheet.

It was moved and seconded to **AMEND** the motion to include the caveat that **"The Pastor or Clerk of Session has the authority to adjust rates as needed on a case-by-case basis in keeping with the ministry of the congregation."** Amendment was **APPROVED** by a vote of 7:0.

The AMENDED MOTION was APPROVED by a vote of 7:0.

Campers and unknown parked vehicles: The session discussed the situation in which people have started sleeping in the alcoves on the porch again, the fear it engenders in building users, and the options for those people. The session also discussed the 2 vehicles that are either abandoned in the parking lot or seldom moved. Joe checked with Alaska State Troopers and neither vehicle is stolen. A towing company agreed to tow the vehicles at the owners expense, if we desire. **Session agreed that Joe would put signs on the cars telling the owners that the vehicles will be towed at their own expense if they are not moved before snow is plowed and to call the church office to identify themselves if they continue to park on UCPC property.**

Old Business

Annual Meeting: The Annual Meeting will be November 10 after worship. Sarah will order pizza, and a donation jar will be put out to help defray costs. Joe and crew will set up tables. Anyone who is able will help clean up.

Transitional work: The summaries of all transitional questions were briefly reviewed. These will be presented at the **annual meeting** and a **task force of members will be put together** to review and possibly re-craft the current mission statement of the church, based on this feedback from the congregation.

Thanksgiving Potluck, Nov. 24: Session agreed that the potluck and mission faire will be held. Pat will continue to reach out to groups to display their mission. **The Mission Faire will be at 4:30, with dinner to begin at 5:00.** A sign-up sheet is needed for what to bring.

UCPC's policy and honorarium for guest preachers: This needs to be reviewed, in light of Pastor Erika's maternity leave in February, March, April. The ad hoc committee from worship & finance committees, plus clerk (Jim, Roger, Doreen) will meet soon.

General Assembly (GA) booklets: Session approved giving these booklets that explain the meeting and proposed amendments to the congregation, but they are long-winded and uninformative, while the books that explain proposed amendments in detail are even longer. Session **appointed Doreen to provide a summary of the amendments that are proposed to be made to the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) constitution** so that UCPC members are aware of the issues. The Presbytery of Yukon (including UCPC's elder commissioner) will vote on the proposed amendments in early 2025.

Items for future docket(s)

Additional Red Cross Point Person for UCPC. We are awaiting more information from Red Cross

Meeting Schedule: Next meetings:

Nov. 7, 5:30PM Deacons' Meeting—Matthew Bierer

Nov. 10, after worship Annual Meeting of congregation, with lunch

Nov. 21, 6:30PM in person regular Session meeting

Nov. 24, 4:30PM Mission Faire; **5:00PM** Thanksgiving Potluck

Mission Committee Work Day

Mission Committee will be making breakfast burritos for the Door and the Little Free Pantry after church on 11/3.

Extra hands are always welcome!



DON'T FORGET!

UCPC Thanksgiving Potluck and Mission Fair at

4:30PM on November 24!!

What will *you* bring to the table?



On All Saints' Sunday, November 3rd, we'll be celebrating and remembering the lives of those who have died recently. If you would like a candle lit in memory of a loved one, and their name read aloud during worship on that day, please send Pastor Erika the name and the person's relationship to you, your family or

the church by October 20th. Additionally, we may be able to incorporate photos into the slides on that day. If you would like a photo included, please send that as well to Pastor Erika by October 20th. On November 3rd, we would like to hold space with you, as we collectively grieve the loss of your loved one and celebrate their life again, so please do send in your loved ones' names so we can honor and remember them together.

Annual Meeting and Report Information

- ♦ The Annual Congregational and Corporation Meeting will be held on November 10, immediately following worship, in the Fellowship Hall. Pizza is provided. Part of what will be happening at the Annual Meeting is the creation of a team to work on a new Mission and Vision Statement for UCPC, based on the conversations and information gathered at the Mission Study potlucks that took place this past year. Please be considering if you would be willing to serve on this team or if you know of someone who would be great for this role.
- ♦ All committee or ministry group reports are due by *October 21*.
- ♦ The final draft of the Annual Report will be published Friday, *November 1*, so it will be available at worship the week before the meeting.

University Community Presbyterian Church



3510 College Road, Fairbanks, AK 99709

Website: www.ucpcfairbanks.org

Phone: (907) 479-6728

Office Hours

9:00AM to 2:00PM, Monday - Thursday

Pastor Erika is in the office Monday, Wednesday and Thursday, 10AM-2PM



Contacts

Supply Pastor . Rev. Erika Bergh 1-(907)-717-5015 Email: rev.erikabergh@gmail.com

Admin Assistant: Melissa Bierer (907) 479-6728 Email: admin@ucpcfairbanks.org

Session Elders and Committee Leaders

Doreen McNeill ('24)	388-0544	Clerk of Session
Joe Krizek ('24)	460-4294	
Pat Babcock ('25)	978-7187	
Matthew Bierer ('25)	474-0106	
Jim Durst ('26)	590-9024	
Paula Long ('26)	687-7444	
Roger Smith ('26)	322-2595	

Board of Deacons

Judy Fowler-Morris ('26)	388-5629	President
Carol Nielsen ('25)	388-8154	
Sarah Lanstra ('25)	378-3929	
Melissa Bierer ('24)	474-0106	
Janet Johnson ('24)	687-7148	
Marijo Larson ('26)	322-9425	

Worship Service Leaders

Matthew Bierer	Video Manager
Kathy Dohner	Organist/Pianist
Curtis McNeill	Sound Manager
Theresa Reed	Choir Director

*Let us come
before him with
thanksgiving.*

Psalm 95:2, NIV