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# URBANDALE

## UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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*A Just Peace and Open and Affirming congregation*



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## Ponderings from Your Pastor

*Now, sisters and brothers, we want to tell you how God's grace has been given to the churches in Macedonia. In the midst of severe trial, their overflowing joy and deep poverty have produced an abundant generosity. (II Corinthians 8:1-2, The Inclusive Bible)*

Most years, I can count on the November issue of the Call to be devoted to introducing the theme for the fall stewardship campaign, but there is more than adequate coverage of that in other places, so I thought it might be more productive to use this space to follow up on something that I said earlier this fall, and that you hear a lot from me: our role in disaster response, as a denomination, is to do long-term recovery. Well, that mission is just now getting geared up for a response to some major natural disasters, and here is what we know:

### **Puerto Rico –**

Electricity is out for the majority of the island and likely will be for months if not years. Much of the infrastructure will have to be replaced, including miles and miles of utility poles and lines. People will need lighting, a way to cook, temporary repairs to roofs (tarps) and then permanent repairs. The best way to help is to donate for items that are most needed. If you want to think of the purchasing that your donation will accomplish, this is the price list:

Solar Powered Lamp	\$ 12.00
Single-Burner Propane Stove	\$ 60.00
Propane Cylinder, cooking gas	\$ 60.00
Roof Tarps (20x25)	\$ 95.00
Church World Service Blankets for 5 families	\$ 250.00
Utility Pole – 40' @ \$6.50/ft.	\$ 260.00
Food Packages – 10 families for one month	\$ 1,100.00
Utility Poles for 1 mile	\$10,000.00

The UCC as a denomination sent an initial gift of \$10,000 for relief and recovery.

To give go to [www.ucc.org/disaster\\_puerto\\_rico](http://www.ucc.org/disaster_puerto_rico) and click on donate

### **Texas and Florida –**

Volunteers are needed to help homeowners rebuild. Tasks will include tearing out drywall, moving and cleaning personal possessions, roofing, gutting interiors, replacing insulation, siding, drywall repair and painting, flooring and other interior work. Participants generally must be 16 or older and those under 18 will need adult supervision.

If you are interested in volunteering, let me know.

At the Iowa Conference Annual Meeting on October 7, \$525 was raised, making a total of nearly \$23,500 for disaster relief from the Conference.

This is all made possible because we relate to one another in covenant. We respond with compassion and sensitivity. We show love because we know love. While many denigrate church institutions and structures, they enable us to respond quickly and efficiently to crises. So thank you for making this work possible. Amen

**Pastor Dave**

Fall stewardship campaign reminds us of the “Joy of Giving.”

*The pews are alive with the joy of giving.  
A time to give back to our church so dear.  
We give from the heart, it's a part of living.  
We know that our gifts will enrich our year.*

The church will celebrate Stewardship Sunday on November 12, remembering how joyful it is to give. On this Sunday we will receive pledge cards from members and friends of the congregation for the 2018 year. These pledges help us to plan receipts and expenditures for the coming year in a budget approved by the congregation in January.

## **THE JOY OF GIVING**

The theme, “Joy of Giving,” reminds us that when we give back to a church that has given us so much over the years it is a double-gift: the church gets something, and we get something. Every inspiring word or anthem we heard, every opportunity to reach and care for our community, every lesson about God’s love and acceptance regardless of where we are on life’s journey, every child who was reaffirmed in her or his belonging to our beloved community, every minute of every group that spends time in the shelter of the walls and roof of the building, that is the daily giving we receive from our church. Stewardship Sunday is a time to give back.

These words also remind us that giving must first come from our hearts—an expression of love, courage and commitment. Yes, use your head to figure out how much to give of your time and treasure, but engage your heart as well so your gift comes with passion, enthusiasm and joy.

When you make your pledge for the coming year, remember that you are enriching yourself and others in the impossible mathematics of God. Your gift is never equal to what you give. It is multiplied in what the church gets and does with it, in how others benefit and in the joy it returns to you. Take a moment and think about these words of Jesus (Luke 6:38): “Give and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap.”

Make a generous pledge for 2018 to Urbandale UCC on Stewardship Sunday, November 12<sup>th</sup> and then join us for a Stewardship Lunch immediately following worship.

The Stewardship and Mission Interpretation Team

## Order Poinsettias in Memory or Honor of Loved Ones!

It is almost time to order Christmas poinsettias to decorate the chancel for Christmas. There is a choice of size plants and color of plants. Order envelopes are out on the narthex table. To buy or donate a poinsettia, you may place your order, including payment, in the box on the narthex table or in the office. **The deadline to order will be Sunday, November 12<sup>th</sup>.**

*Thank you.*

## All Saints Vespers

All Saints is historically a remembrance of the martyrs of Christ's mission and for remembrance of those who have died in the past year. We wish to observe this solemn day as an opportunity of celebration and remembrance of the life that people gave to our community and to our families. Join us for All Saints Vespers on November 1 at 6:00pm. People are welcome to share a candle in remembrance of the loved ones lost in the past year. Commemorate your love for and memories of the beloved saints in your lives. All are welcome!

## ADVENT VESPERS

### **Do you have a guitar, a violin or ..? Can you greet?**

We are busy planning for the season of Advent and call upon talent to help us celebrate this journey. We are looking for musicians and greeters to help celebrate and to guide our worship in anticipation of joy of the Christmas season. Let Pastor Dave (or Tony) know if you are willing and when you are able to help for Wednesdays in the weeks of Advent. All are welcome!

## **Urbandale Food Pantry Mission Opportunity**

Please consider joining us Wednesday evening, November 29<sup>th</sup> from 6-6:30pm. Our support is needed to re-stock shelves, sweep, mop and help make the food pantry a hospitable place. We would love to have you join us. Transportation is not provided. Please speak with Rev. Amy if you need a ride.

### **\*\* OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED \*\***

Thursday, November 23 – Friday, November 24  
in observance of Thanksgiving.



## **Children & Youth News**

### **“Midnight Miracle”**

Hi Preschool-5th grade families! It's that time of year when we begin rehearsing during Sunday school starting November 12<sup>th</sup>. We will rehearse in the sanctuary 9-9:30am and then finish in our classroom upstairs with cookies and our daily lessons from 9:30-9:45am.

PARENTS! We need you for these rehearsals as we fit and prepare costumes, prepare stage props and assist Bobby Stinnett as we learn lines and songs. There are several speaking roles and we need to know if your child(ren) would like to memorize/read lines. Please let Rev. Amy or Bobby know ASAP.

Please mark your calendars to be here from 9-9:45 am for the following rehearsals:

**November 12**

**November 19**

**November 26 Thanksgiving Sunday—NO SUNDAY SCHOOL**

**December 3**

**December 10**

**December 17**

The Christmas Program will be Sunday, Dec. 17th during worship. Youth and families will also serve as ushers, greeters, and liturgists.

### **Gratitude, Games & Goodness!**

Mark your calendars **3-6th Youth Group** for Sunday, November 5<sup>th</sup> ~ 11:15 am. We will decorate brown bags for families to receive when they pick up their November Thanksgiving items and make cards expressing our gratitude for our UFP clients, church members and (weather permitting) play “Gratitude Games” at Lyon’s Park. Parents and families are encouraged to join us. Please sign the permission slip outside Rev. Amy's office giving permission for youth leaders to drive your child to Lyon's Park at 4103 72nd Street. **Please pick up your youth by 1pm.**

### **7-12th Youth Group Regressive Dinner**

Mark your calendars for Sunday, November 12th from 5:00-7:30 pm for our **2nd Annual Regressive Dinner**. Meet at church by 5pm and we will head to the Schachtner/Haemer residence for dessert, the Gannon residence for the main course and end our evening at the Siegel residence for appetizers. Parents are to pick up your youth at the Siegel’s home located 7012 Holcomb Ave. here in Urbandale. Please sign-up giving your youth permission to attend and be transported by youth leaders to each house no later than Wednesday, November 8<sup>th</sup> so our gracious hosts can plan accordingly.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL~9:00-9:45 AM

**Preschool-5th grade** will be meeting in the Sanctuary from 9-9:10am for songs led by Bobby Stinnett. Youth will then go to the Upper Education Wing with Emily Gibbens, Nicole Berger and parent volunteers to further engage in the weekly Bible story through games and crafts.

**6-12th graders** will meet in the NW corner of Fellowship Hall with Laura Fefchak and Jennifer Gardner.

\*Please note there is **NO Sunday school or Adult Spiritual Formation on Sunday, November 26<sup>th</sup>** so our volunteers can have time with their families.

## ADULT SPIRITUAL FORMATION (ASF) ~ 9:00-9:45AM IN FELLOWSHIP HALL:

**November 5<sup>th</sup>:** Des Moines Habitat for Humanity  
Presenter: Brendalyn Shird

**November 12<sup>th</sup>:** Building & Grounds Update  
Presenter: Mark Siegel

**November 19<sup>th</sup>:** Habitat for Humanity in Africa  
Presenter: Jerry Woods

**November 26<sup>th</sup>:** THANKSGIVING—NO SS/ASF

## WEDNESDAY NIGHT ALIVE

Howdy everyone! Needed: Your kids for our Wednesday Night Alive Bible Study Class. Holiday Season is soon approaching and here is our schedule for November.

**November 1:** 1<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> Chronicles Josiah and Jehoash

**November 8:** Ezra

**November 15:** Nehemiah

**November 22:** No WNA Thanksgiving Break

**November 29:** Food Pantry

6:00-6:30 ..Bible Study & Activities (PreK-6<sup>th</sup>)  
6:30-7:00 ...Adult Bells (Sr. High & up)  
6:45-8:00 ...OWL (7<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> Grade)  
7:00-8:30 ...Adult Choir (Sr. High-Adults)

If your child is not in one of the scheduled activities, please honor the safety policy and supervise him/her so that children are not left unattended in the building.

*No childcare unless requested.*

# November 2017      Who... What... Where... When...

	<b>November 5 Communion</b>	<b>November 12</b>	<b>November 19 Receiving New Members</b>	<b>November 26 Thanksgiving</b>
<b>Scripture</b>	<b>Psalm 43</b>	<b>Wisdom of Solomon 6:17-20</b>	<b>Psalm 90:1-12</b>	
<b>Preaching</b>	Pastor Dave	Pastor Dave	Pastor Dave	
<b>Liturgist</b>	Zack Norton	SMI	TBD	Tony Dillon-Hansen
<b>Music Leadership</b>	Adult Choir	Adult Choir	Raggedy Band Adult Choir	Adult Choir
<b>Ushers &amp; Greeters</b>	Jeff Couch Sharon Johnson Chris Jordan Duane Cuthrell	Jim Nervig Adam Dirks Diane Gladson Wayne Waage	Bob Shoemaker Diane Shoemaker Tony Dillon-Hansen Jerry Wiley	Sharon Johnson Margaret Christian Dawn Halstead Bob Harding
<b>Acolytes</b>	Exley Family	Lown Family	Barb & Walt Rehberg	Berger Family
<b>Nursery</b>	Anjy Allen Susan Joynt	Anjy Allen Susan Joynt	Anjy Allen Carla Briggs	Anjy Allen Deb Beery
<b>Opening the Church</b>	Chris Jordan	Jeff Couch	Mark Siegel	Jerry Woods
<b>Offering Recorders</b>	Chris Jordan Ruth Rasmussen	Taena Fowler Carla Briggs	Steve Chandler Mark Siegel	Kathleen Trujillo Roush Jeff Couch
<b>Sound Booth</b>	Jon Duvick	Scott Davis	Scott Gardner	Scott Gardner

**December 2017 CALL DEADLINE:  
Wednesday, November 15<sup>th</sup>**

# Events & Activities

November 2017

November 2017							December 2017						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			1	2	3	4						1	2
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
26	27	28	29	30			24	25	26	27	28	29	30
							31						

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Oct 29	30	31	Nov 1	2	3	4
			<div>6:00pm WNA</div> <div>6:00pm All Saints' Vespers</div> <div>7:30pm AA</div>		<div>6:00pm Youth OWL Retreat</div> <div>6:00pm</div>	<div>8:00am Fall Church Clean-Up Day</div> <div>9:00am Private Meeting</div> <div>6:30pm Private Lessons</div>
<div>9:00am Sunday School &amp; ASF</div> <div>10:00am Worship: Communion</div> <div>11:00am "Connections"</div> <div>12:00pm Light Mission Pentecostal</div> <div>12:30pm Matu Bethel Church</div>		<div>City Election Polling Place</div> <div>11:00am Staff Meeting</div> <div>7:00pm Adult OWL</div>	<div>8:00am Private Meeting</div> <div>9:30am Caregivers</div> <div>5:30pm Spaghetti Dinner</div> <div>6:00pm WNA</div> <div>6:00pm Worship Team</div> <div>7:30pm AA</div>	<div>7:00pm Leadership Team</div>		<div>1:00pm Private Group</div>
<div>9:00am Sunday School &amp; ASF</div> <div>10:00am Worship: Stewardship Sunday</div> <div>11:00am Stewardship Luncheon</div> <div>12:00pm Light Mission Pentecostal</div> <div>12:30pm Matu Bethel Church</div> <div>5:00pm Youth Regressive Dinner</div>	<div>6:00pm Green Boat</div>	<div>11:00am Staff Meeting</div> <div>6:30pm Scouts</div> <div>7:00pm Adult OWL</div>	<div>CALL Due</div> <div>6:00pm WNA</div> <div>7:30pm AA</div>	16	17	<div>9:00am Bowtie Boyz</div> <div>1:00pm Private Lessons</div>
<div>9:00am Sunday School &amp; ASF</div> <div>10:00am Worship</div> <div>12:00pm Light Mission Pentecostal</div> <div>12:30pm Matu Bethel Church</div>	<div>6:00pm Book Club</div>	<div>11:00am Staff Meeting</div> <div>7:00pm Adult OWL</div>	<div>7:30pm AA</div>	<div>OFFICE CLOSED- THANKSGIVING</div>	24	25
<div>10:00am Worship</div> <div>12:00pm Light Mission Pentecostal</div> <div>12:30pm Matu Bethel Church</div>		<div>11:00am Staff Meeting</div> <div>7:00pm Adult OWL</div>	<div>6:00pm WNA</div> <div>6:00pm Urbandale Food Pantry Night</div> <div>7:30pm AA</div>	30	Dec 1	2



## Ways to Serve:

### FALL CLEAN-UP DAY

The church's fall clean-up day will take place on **Saturday, November 4** from 8:00 am to noon. We will have a variety of jobs. You bring the strong backs and fun attitude and we will provide the donuts and coffee. Weather permitting, our primary focus will be on cleaning up the church grounds. Bring your rakes, hedge clippers, and gloves.

### 🍴 | NOVEMBER FOOD PANTRY | 🍴

Thanksgiving Feed-a-Family Last year, the generosity of our community helped the Urbandale Food Pantry provide a Thanksgiving meal to 875 families. This year, we predict we will be serving closer to 1,200 families during the month of November.

In order to reach the goal of providing each of these families a Thanksgiving turkey or turkey breast, we need your assistance. Please consider helping in one of the following ways: • Send a check or donate online to the Urbandale Food Pantry in October and November • Donate a turkey or turkey breast to the Urbandale Food Pantry during our hours of operation: Monday-Thursday 9:30a-6:30p and Saturday 8a-12noon

The personal care item for November is toothpaste. Other items from the preferred foods list by the Food Pantry cart are always needed. Cash/check donations are also very welcome. Please make checks to Urbandale UCC with "Food Pantry" in the memo line.

## Small Groups:

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The **Book Club** will be meeting Monday, November 20<sup>th</sup> from 6-8 pm at Beaverdale Books, 2629 Beaver Ave. This month's book is, "The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down" by Anne Fadiman.

*"The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down explores the clash between a small county hospital in California and a refugee family from Laos over the care of Lia Lee, a Hmong child diagnosed with severe epilepsy. Lia's parents and her doctors both wanted what was best for Lia, but the lack of understanding between them led to tragedy."*

Please join us if you enjoy reading and chatting about books

## **GREEN BOAT~~IT'S OUR TURN NOW . . .**

The sanctuary lighting project is complete, and results are amazing. 20% more light in the sanctuary, and an estimated power usage of only 20% of our previous usage!!! The Building and Grounds team worked long and hard, and now, IT'S OUR TURN! The Green Boat Crew asks all to think differently about our use of our building. Are you someone who is often cold in the sanctuary? Dress in layers, use a prayer shawl and sit towards the middle aisle where it's warmer. During the summer, sit close to the outer edge of the pews, under the vent so that the air doesn't blow on you. And for those of you who get too warm, the same applies! We can better manage temperatures to conserve our power usage if we take personal responsibility rather than expect the thermostat to fluctuate. Over the coming months, we will be adding small signs to remind us to turn off lights, unplug small appliances, turn off faucets. The wider UCC has created a new creation justice webpage, "Be the Church, Bee for Creation," that shares best practices and illuminating ideas, with signup available through the [www.ucc.org./pollinator](http://www.ucc.org./pollinator). All of these are ways that we can move towards our goal of reducing our carbon footprint by 50% by 2030. **Let's all BEE a green church!**

## **FAMILY PROMISE OF GREATER DES MOINES 6<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL COMFORT FOOD COOK-OFF:**

Sunday, November 12th, 5 to 7 PM

West Des Moines Christian Church ~4501 Mills Civic Pkwy, WDM

The fundraiser will include delicious homemade dishes provided by volunteers from many of our host congregations. Attendees cast votes for the winning dish with their pocketbooks (all for the benefit of Family Promise).

Our own Jon Duvick will be bringing a Turkey Chili to the competition, and it would be great to have some warm support from UUCC members!

\$15 adults / \$5 children (12 and under) To reserve tickets, see Jon Duvick at church or call Jim Cain (Family Promise Director) at 515-277-7051

The dress code is comfy and casual; jeans and a flannel shirt will do nicely!

## **November Team Meeting Dates**

- "Connections" will meet **Sunday, November 5** at 11:15 am
- Caregivers will meet **Wednesday, November 8** at 9:30 am
- Worship Team will meet **Wednesday, November 8** at 6:00 pm
- Leadership Team will meet **Tuesday, November 9** at 7:00 pm
- Green Boat Crew will meet **Monday, November 13** at 6:00 pm
- Bowtie Boyz will meet **Saturday, November 18** at 9:00 am
- Book Club will meet **Monday, November 20** at 6:00 pm

Send messages of love and support to:

Mr. Jamel William Carter #17567-030  
USP Leavenworth  
U.S. Penitentiary  
P.O Box 1000  
Leavenworth, KS 66048

If you would like to be added to Jamel's e-mail list, Send your e-mail address or message it to Tina Carter Shields and she can add you. Once you are added to the list you can communicate with him by e-mail.

*“No matter who you are or where you are on life’s journey, you are invited and welcome here.”*

### ***UUCC’s Inclement Weather Policy***

*The church office will be closed on any day that either Urbandale or Des Moines Public Schools are closed as a result of inclement weather. On those days, all church programming will be canceled. If classes are dismissed early, all events at the church will also be canceled.*

*On Sunday mornings with inclement weather, decision will be made by 7:30AM. The recorded message on the church phone system will be changed. (Press 3 for cancellations.) Local television stations will be notified to publicize the announcement and the information will also be posted on UUCC’s Facebook page, [www.facebook.com/UrbandaleUCC](http://www.facebook.com/UrbandaleUCC).*

### **SUNDAY MORNING SCHEDULE—Fall**

9:00 am - Sunday School

10:00 am - Worship

The Rev. David P. Sickelka, Senior Pastor.....[david.sickelka@urbucc.org](mailto:david.sickelka@urbucc.org)  
The Rev. Amy Murray, Ministry Program Coordinator..... [amy.murray@urbucc.org](mailto:amy.murray@urbucc.org)  
Steven Linn, Music Program Director ..... [steven.linn@urbucc.org](mailto:steven.linn@urbucc.org)  
Bobby Stinnett, M.M., Organist,  
    Children/Youth Choirs and Handbells Director .....[bobby.stinnett@urbucc.org](mailto:bobby.stinnett@urbucc.org)  
Sophiap Eng-Swanson, Office Coordinator.....[staff@urbucc.org](mailto:staff@urbucc.org)  
Sadmir & Umihana Omerhodzic, Custodians.....[sadmir.omerhodzic@urbucc.org](mailto:sadmir.omerhodzic@urbucc.org)  
John Chaplin  
    Adjust Minister for LGBTQ Concerns & Community Outreach .....[john.chaplin@urbucc.org](mailto:john.chaplin@urbucc.org)  
Tony Dillon-Hansen.....  
    Student Pastor

Church office hours are Monday-Friday 9:00AM – 3:00PM,

[www.urbucc.org](http://www.urbucc.org) ..... [www.facebook.com/UrbandaleUCC](http://www.facebook.com/UrbandaleUCC)