

First Congregational Messenger  
First Congregational United Church of Christ  
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*Serving God with love and faith*



October 2021

Volume 5, Issue 84

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**October 3. Neighbors in Need (NIN) Special Offering to be Dedicated** The 2021 Neighbors in Need “Unfailing Love” offering is focused on supporting organizations and projects serving our homeless and immigrant neighbors and communities. One third of NIN funds support the Council for American Indian Ministry (CAIM). Two thirds of this offering is used by the UCC’s Justice and Witness Ministries (JWM) to provide funding grants to the UCC churches and organization leading justice initiatives and advocacy efforts and direct service projects in their communities.



Pastor's  
Office Hours

Monday-Thursday 10-4

Other times by appointment

May be out of the office for  
meetings or visits



Office  
Hours

**Office Hours**

Mon- Fri

8-12

## Simmering



“God has the answers; we bring the questions.”

Many of you know by now that part of my faith formation was influenced by 5<sup>th</sup> generation Quaker minister, James Newby. Jim is the author of several books on spiritual formation. His most recent book is titled *Reflections from the Inner Light*, Resource Publishing, 2019.

In one chapter, Jim writes how as a young man, he was a distance runner. He misses those running days, but now walking gives him “much needed time for *simmering*”. *Simmering walks* (he calls them) give him time to reflect on the day’s activities and encounters with others.

To get closer to God, Quakers often create queries (spiritual questions) to take with them into the silence. Here are a few questions that Jim takes with him on his simmering walks:

“Am I using the sacred gift of time today in a meaningful way?”

“Have I been helpful in lifting human burdens today?”

“Have I been an encourager to those in need of encouragement?”

“What spiritual lessons am I learning from today’s experiences?”

Jim’s friend and author, Malcom Muggeridge, wrote, “Every happening great and small is a parable whereby God speaks to us, and the art of life is to get the message.”

May we all seek ways to hear the message from the Still Speaking God.

*Peace, Pastor Jackie*

### October Worship Schedule

- 3 World Communion Sunday (Mercy Meals in the afternoon)
- 10 New Member Sunday
- 17 Children’s Sabbath (Dedication of our food donations)
- 24 Heritage Sunday
- 31 Remembrance Sunday



**Mercy Meals sign-up sheet** in the Narthex, or contact the church office or Pastor Jackie. We need 10 volunteers to serve Sunday afternoon, October 3, from 4 AM for 1 ½ hours bagging meals. Children may serve (if younger than Jr. High, with a parent).

### **Worship in the Season of Covid-19**

Worship Team met in August. In light of an increase in recent Covid cases, the team encourages people to wear a mask and to social distance.



We need people to help serve coffee during Fellowship time. A sign-up sheet is in Fellowship Hall. There are 2 Sundays in October open. If no one is willing to serve, there will be no coffee. Donations of Styrofoam cups and plastic spoons would be appreciated.



### **Report on To Norfolk With Love**

Jane Uzzell and Pastor Jackie participated in the 4<sup>th</sup> annual To Norfolk With Love event on Saturday morning, September 11. About 20 different teams went out into the community to work. With their team, Jane and Pastor Jackie pulled weeds and cleaned up the five gardens at the Veterans' Home.



At the Congregational Meeting on September 19<sup>th</sup>, the congregation voted to change the by-laws from 25 members required for a quorum, to 20 members.



## UPDATING THE CHURCH DIRECTORY

Has your contact information changed since last October?

Do you want to update your photo?

Please send new contact info and a photo to Susan Allyn in the Church office. We plan to print the new church directory in mid-October.



## October Food Drive

Please bring in canned goods Sundays: October, 3, 10 & 17 for Norfolk Community Food Pantry. Here is a list of their needs:

- Boxed potatoes
- Rice (white & brown / regular & minute types)
- Canned beans (not green beans)
- Canned vegetables (peas, carrots, corn, etc.)
- Peanut Butter
- Canned tomatoes
- Pancake mix
- Syrup
- Crackers (soup & snack types)
- Chicken & Tuna Helper
- Vegetable oil
- Baking items & spices



**UPCOMING Cook & Deliver - November 7** – Youth are planning to cook a meal in our church kitchen to deliver to Rescue Mission. During this Covid-19 season, we won't stay for devotions and serving of the meal.

## Quilts of Valor

Sacred Thread – Honoring our Veterans, September 19th

Honorees: Merle Rix, Ben Uzzell, Gene Kroeger, Gary Podliska, Jeff Burkink, Paige Uzzell.

Quilts were pieced and or quilted by Nancy Brown, Amy Sisson, Lea McKenna, Susan Schoenauer





NORFOLK SCHOOLS IN MALAWI, INC.

# RELAY *for* MALAWI 2021



30 MILE RELAY RACE  
OR 3 MILE WALK

SATURDAY, OCT. 16, 2021

TAHAZOUKA PARK  
\$40/RUNNER/WALKER



- REGISTRATION DEADLINE: OCTOBER 8, 2021
- CHECK IN: RUNNERS 7:00 AM WALKERS: 8:30 AM
- RUNNERS: FORM YOUR OWN TEAM OF 3-6 MEMBERS
- BRING YOUR OWN UNIQUE BATON
- PRIZES



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NORFOLK SCHOOLS IN MALAWI

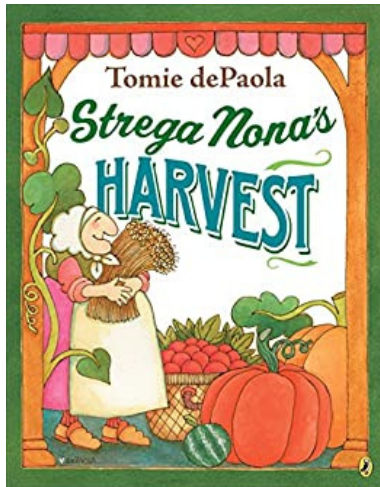
BROCHURE AND MAP DESIGN COURTESY:

NORFOLK AREA  
SPORTS COUNCIL

SPORTSINNORFOLK.COM

FORMS ALSO AVAILABLE AT: APPEARA/FLOOR MAINTENANCE, CORNHUSKER AUTO, COURTESY FORD & U SAVE - NORFOLK

Organized by Norfolk Schools in Malawi (Dr. Joe Mtika, Founder & CEO and Al Rajae, Board of Directors). Funds raised go to school building repairs, purchase of learning supplies for students, and paying bills and teachers' salaries. In addition, money is always needed once the students have graduated and made their way to the U.S. for college. Many of these students come to Norfolk to attend Northeast Community College!



Book Club will continue on October 13 with *Strega Nona's Harvest* by T. dePaola. Jane Uzzell will have the book if you are interested.

Do you go grocery shopping? At Lou's? At HyVee? **We have an easy way to bump up your donation to the church budget**--use a Lou's or HyVee gift card when you go shopping or get gas. You can buy them **Sundays** in Fellowship Hall. We currently get \$25, \$50 and \$100 gift cards. The church buys \$1000 of gift cards for \$970, so we get \$30 for the budget. See you at the table in Fellowship Hall! Please help out. The gift cards fit right in your billfold by your dollar bills, so it's even easy to remember to use them when you go to pay for your groceries.



### Birthdays

7th Phyllis Ames

18th Lee Frisch

### Anniversary

2nd Gene and Darlene Korthals



## OCTOBER

### October 3

**Communion:** Ben Uzzell and Tom McConnell

**Ushers:** Suzan Podliska and Susan Surber

**Greeters:** Evonne Burkink, Barb Koenig

**Reader:** Chuck Balsiger

**Leader:** Randy Neuharth

**Flowers:** Gene and Darlene Korthals

### October 10

**Ushers:** Ed Lindsay and Mike Synovec

**Greeters:**

**Reader:** Tom McConnell

**Flowers:**

### October 17

**Ushers:** Gene and Bonnie Kroeger

**Greeters:** Scott and Lori Williams

**Reader:** Randy Neuharth

**Flowers:** Jane Uzzell

### October 24

**Ushers:** Charlene Fosdick and Jane Uzzell

**Greeters:** Ed Lindsay and Chuck Balsiger

**Reader:** Ben Uzzell

**Flowers:** Jane Uzzell

### October 31

**Ushers:** Scott and Lori Williams

**Greeters:** Bonnie Dewell and Verletta Olson

**Reader:** Kay Neuharth

**Flowers:**



## November

### November 7

**Communion:** Scott and Lori Williams

**Ushers:** Rita Woodard and Barb Koenig

**Greeters:** Gene and Bonnie Kroeger

**Reader:** Verletta Olson

**Leader:** Jane Uzzell

**Flowers:**

### November 14

**Ushers:** Gene and Darlene Korthals

**Greeters:** Susan Surber and Rita Woodard

**Reader:** Lori Williams

**Flowers:** Beth Janelle Rhoades

### November 21

**Ushers:** Evonne Burkink and Verletta Olson

**Greeters:** Tom McConnell and Mike Synovec

**Reader:** Jane Uzzell

**Flowers:** Scott and Lori Williams

### November 28      **First Advent**

**Ushers:** Bonnie Dewell and Suzan Podliska

**Greeters:** Gene and Darlene Korthals

**Reader:** Scott Williams

**Flowers:**

Please notify the office if you are not able to attend a service.



# September

From 9/1/21 through 9/30/21



TREASURER'S REPORT

## Checking account information

Beginning balance	\$ 5,194.38
<u>Weekly deposits</u>	<u>\$ 10,987.00</u>
Subtotal	\$ 16,181.38
Salary	--\$ 7,376.71
Church Maintenance	—\$ 1,726.22
Office Expenses	—\$ 853.50
Worship Ministry	—\$ 336.38
Substitute Organist	—\$ 70.00
Pastor Continuing Education	—\$ 70.00
Substitute Pastor	—\$ 153.00
Church Insurance	—\$ 2,717.75
Renner's	—\$ 755.00
<u>OCWM</u>	<u>—\$ 1,087.00</u>
Final Balance	\$ 1,035.82

# ▶ October 2021

**Sun      Mon      Tue      Wed      Thu      Fri      Sat**

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1      2

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3      4      5      6      7      8      9

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9 AM Sunday School  
10:15 Worship  
[4 PM Mercy Meals](#)  
Jay Daniels FH  
4:30-9

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10      11      12      13      14      15      16

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9 AM Sunday School  
10:15 Worship

GS 6:30

GS 5:30

[10 Worship Ministry](#)  
[10 Book Club](#)

[7 Unity Council](#)

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17      18      19      20      21      22      23

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9 AM Sunday School  
10:15 Worship

GS 5:30

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24      25      26      27      28      29      30

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9 AM Sunday School  
10:15 Worship  
[Heritage](#)

GS 6:30

GS 5:30  
Mike Synovec  
FH 6:30

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31

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[Remembrance](#)  
9 AM Sunday School  
10:15 Worship

# ▶ November 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 GS 5:30	3 10 Worship Ministry	4	5	6
7 9 AM Sunday School 10:15 Worship	8	9 GS 5:30	10 10 Book Club	11	12	13
14 9 AM Sunday School 10:15 Worship	15 GS 6:30  Sue vacation	16 GS 5:30	17	18	19	20
21 9 AM Sunday School 10:15 Worship	22  Sue vacation	23 GS 5:30  Sue vacation	24 Thanksgiving Eve service  Sue vacation	25 <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>	26 <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>	27 Family Rental Fellowship Hall
28 9 AM Sunday School 10:15 Worship	29 GS 6:30	30				

# *Poinsettias*

This year Shamrock Nursery will be offering poinsettias, in a 7 1/2" pot for \$13. We are able to get them in red, white, burgundy, or ice punch. Please indicate your color and if you would like a message in the bulletin for the season. Orders need to be in by **Nov. 1**

\_\_\_\_ red

\_\_\_\_ white

\_\_\_\_ burgundy

\_\_\_\_ ice punch

Order for: \_\_\_\_\_

Message:

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Burgundy



Ice Punch

