First Congregational Messenger First Congregational United Church of Christ 1102 W. Norfolk Ave. Norfolk, NE 68701 402-371-0701

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Serving God with love and faith



September 2024 Volume 5, Issue 119

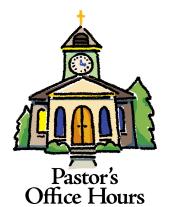


All-Church Potluck

Sunday, September 29 we will have a potluck following worship. This is an opportunity to get to know Pastor Brian and Andrea better. Please bring a dish to share and enjoy a meal of fellowship.

Mercy Meals is again sponsoring Pack Away Hunter on October 5 and 6. Please look for more information about sign up and we will collect donations now to help pay for this important work.





Office Hours

Monday-Thursday 9-12

Afternoons by appointment



Church Secretary

Office Hours

Monday-Friday

8-12

May be gone to the doctor with Mom

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Brian's Beacon

Fall is coming, which is one of my favorite times of the year. Love the cool weather, the changing of leaves, some Indian summer days and yet nice nights. Our foods, dress, and activities change with the season too. Here at church, we will start Sunday school, and have a potluck at the end of September. I always love reading a book and studying but it is so easy to curl up with a book in the fall. A lot of my reading right now is Histories of the United Church of Christ. This is somewhat interesting. I am taking a UCC polity class for my dual standing. Another reading is a book called Racoon John Smith which is about some of the history in the Restoration Movement. And of course, more reading on the Apostles since that is where we are in our sermon series right now. I am meeting new people in our church as well as meeting people in the church association.

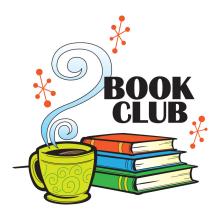
My Sunday school class, which starts on the 15th of September, will be studying "COME THIRSTY" by Max Lucado. Max Lucado was the minister for the Oak Hills Church in San Antonio, Texas, and the author of multiple bestsellers and is America's leading inspirational author. This is a six-week group-building class with questions and discussion. It is the perfect study for small group, and we will be using the "Come Thirsty" DVD with the class.

My other big event in September is my youngest daughter's wedding, which will be on September 7th at Camp Moses Merrill. This special time will be, yes, a wedding, but also a family gathering. Love special family times. Life is so short and we all need to take advantage of every opportunity we can to be with family.

I hope that we each can grow deeper this fall as we enjoy the season change, church family and other events that will bring our family together.

Serving You,

Pastor Brian High



<u>Book Club</u> will meet September 11 at 10 AM. *Okra Stew* by Natalie Daise. The books can be found in Fellowship Hall or you can contact Jane Uzzell.

Funny for the Month

To enter our closed community, one needs to punch a few numbers on a keypad to open the gates. When my son was visiting, he asked for the code. "It's the year Columbus discovered America," I told him. A few minutes later, my son, who is the CEO of a thriving corporation, called to say, "Dad, the gate won't open, even though I keep pressing 1776."

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.

See you at the table in Fellowship Hall! Questions? Leave a message for Jane Uzzell at (402) 640-6623.



SEPTEMBER Birthdays & Anniversaries

2nd Jill Waterbury

4th Gene Korthals

Candice Korthals

8th Jeanne Rix

16th Cole Uzzell

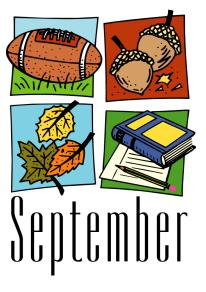
18th Sara Putters

26th Lois Williams

28th Sandy McConnell

Anniversary

26th Brian and Andrea High





Communion: Verletta Olson and Tom McConnell

Ushers: Stacie and Reese Uzzell Greeters: Ben and Grace Uzzell

Reader: Randy Neuharth **Leader:** Jane Uzzell

Flowers: Alexander Children

Sept 8

Ushers: Scott and Lori Williams

Greeters: Evonne Burkink and Susan Surber

Reader: Reese Uzzell

Flowers: Erik and Katie Gamerl

Sept 15 Rally Day

Ushers: Bonnie Dewell and Barb Koenig **Greeters:** Pat Jenny and Rita Woodard

Reader: Jane Uzzell

Flowers: Scott and Lori Williams

Sept 22

Ushers: Gene and Bonnie Kroeger

Greeters: Barb Koenig and Grace Uzzell

Reader: Verletta Olson

Flowers:

Sept 29

Ushers: Evonne Burkink and Susan Surber Greeters: Tom McConnell and Bonnie Dewell

Reader: Scott Williams

Flowers:



October 6

Communion: Ben Uzzell and Susan Surber Ushers: Rita Woodard and Mike Synovec Greeters: Verletta Olson and Reese Uzzell

Reader: Susan Allyn Leader: Randy Neuharth

Flowers: Gene and Darlene Korthals

October 13

Ushers: Randy and Kay Neuharth **Greeters:** Scott and Lori Williams

Reader: Tom McConnell

Flowers:

October 20

Ushers: Pat Jenny and Verletta Olson **Greeters:** Gene and Bonnie Kroeger

Reader: Kay Neuharth

Flowers:

October 27

Ushers: Tom McConnell and Barb Koenig

Greeters: Ben and Stacie Uzzell

Reader: Lori Williams

Flowers:

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

July

From 7/1/24 through 7/31/24

Checking account information

Beginning balance	\$	460.24
Food Pantry	\$	245.00
Mercy Meals	\$	100.00
Transfer from savings	\$	5,200.00
Weekly deposits	\$	14,027.95
Subtotal	\$	14,833.19
Salary	\$	7,365.50
Church Maintenance	—\$	3,081.26
Office Expenses	\$	440.78
Worship Ministry	\$	460.74
Faith Development	\$	39.99
Food Pantry	\$	320.00
Mercy Meals	\$	200.00
Continuing Education	—\$	106.12
Insurance	\$	950.67
Norfolk Church of Christ	\$	2,000.00
Conference	\$	1,000.00
Renner's	\$	500.00
Final Balance	\$	-1,631.87



The check to Norfolk Church of Christ is to correct a mistake. A check was written to us from a family wishing to donate and it should have been written to Norfolk Church of Christ.

August

From 8/1/24 through 8/31/24

Checking account information

Beginning balance	\$	-1,631.87
Transfer from savings	\$	3,200.00
Weekly deposits	\$	5,265.00
Subtotal	\$	6,833.13
Salary	\$	6,495.99
Church Maintenance	— \$	2,566.19
Office Expenses	— \$	1,475.75
Worship Ministry	 \$	88.37
Faith Development	\$	45.64
Continuing Education	— \$	710.51
Insurance	\$	950.67
Conference	\$	420.00
Renner's	—-\$	500.00
Final Balance	\$	-6,419.99



September 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
10:15 Worship	OFFICE CLOSED					
				Pastor Brian vacation	Pastor Brian vacation	Pastor Brian vacation
8	9	10	1 1	12	13	14
10:15 Worship			10 Book club			
Pastor Brian vacation	Pastor Brian vacation					
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Rally Day 9 Sunday School	GS 6-7:30					
10:15 Worship						
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
9 Sunday School					Tri-Conference Meeting	Tri-Conference Meeting
10:15 Worship					Sue out of the office	

29 30

9 Sunday School

10:15 Worship Potluck Dinner

October 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6 9 Sunday School 10:15 Worship	7 GS 6-7:30	8	9 10 Book club	10	1 1	12
13 9 Sunday School 10:15 Worship	14	15	16	17	18	19
20 9 Sunday School 10:15 Worship	21 GS 6-7:30	22	23	24	25	26
27 9 Sunday School 10:15 Worship	28	29	30	31		

10:15 Worship