

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



firstcongoucc@fastmail.com  
*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.



## Pastor's Office Hours

### 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

Pastor's page	2-3
Announcements	4
Serving	5
Financial Page	6-7
Calendar	8-9



## 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 *Racon 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 15<sup>th</sup> 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 7<sup>th</sup> 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



**Book Club** 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



**Sept 1**

**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
<u>Weekly deposits</u>	\$	<u>14,027.95</u>
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
<u>Renner's</u>	—\$	<u>500.00</u>
Final Balance	\$	<b>-1,631.87</b>



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
<u>Weekly deposits</u>	\$	<u>5,265.00</u>
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
<u>Renner's</u>	—\$	<u>500.00</u>
Final Balance	\$	-6,419.99



# ▶ September 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 10:15 Worship	2 OFFICE CLOSED	3	4	5 Pastor Brian vacation	6 Pastor Brian vacation	7 Pastor Brian vacation
8 10:15 Worship	9 Pastor Brian vacation	10	11 10 Book club	12	13	14
15 Rally Day 9 Sunday School 10:15 Worship	16 GS 6-7:30	17	18	19	20	21
22 9 Sunday School 10:15 Worship	23	24	25	26	27 Tri-Conference Meeting Sue out of the office	28 Tri-Conference Meeting
29 9 Sunday School 10:15 Worship Potluck Dinner	30					



# ▶ October 2024

**Sun**      **Mon**      **Tue**      **Wed**      **Thu**      **Fri**      **Sat**

---

1      2      3      4      5

---

6      7      8      9      10      11      12

9 Sunday  
School  
10:15 Worship

GS 6-7:30

10 Book club

---

13      14      15      16      17      18      19

9 Sunday  
School  
10:15 Worship

---

20      21      22      23      24      25      26

9 Sunday  
School  
10:15 Worship

GS 6-7:30

---

27      28      29      30      31

9 Sunday  
School  
10:15 Worship