

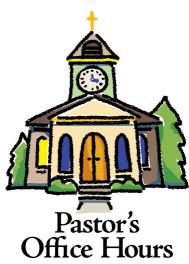
First Congregational Messenger  
First Congregational United Church of Christ  
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*Serving God with love and faith*



September 2025  
Volume 5, Issue 131



Rally Sunday is September 7. Sunday School begins again and the Adult class will be working through Max Lucado's book "Unshakable Hope". Classes begin at 9 and all are welcome to join.



#### Office Hours

Monday-Thursday 9-12

Afternoons by appointment



**Office Hours**  
Monday-Friday

8-12

May be gone to the  
doctor with Mom

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



## Brian's Beacon

As the season progresses, so does our spiritual life. Each day is a new day and a day to grow closer to God. We can grow closer by our prayers, study, reading and fellowship with him.

By the time you read this, we will have a great start to our fall programming. Rev. Roberto Ochoa has been here and blessed us as well as the Linaje Church.

Youth groups have begun and school has started. The leaves will be changing, and weather has cooled down. But our life spiritually needs not to cool down but to warm up. Maybe Sunday School will help you with that since it starts on September 7<sup>th</sup>. The book the adults are studying is “Unshakable Hope” which unpacks 12 of God’s promises. My encouragement to you is get involved. I’m praying about starting a Bible study group that would meet every other Wednesday from 6:30 to 8:00pm. If you’re interested, please let me know! It would be a study though a book of the Bible.

I hope that you will grow with me this fall!

Pastor Brian

## Bible Reading for the Month

# September 2025

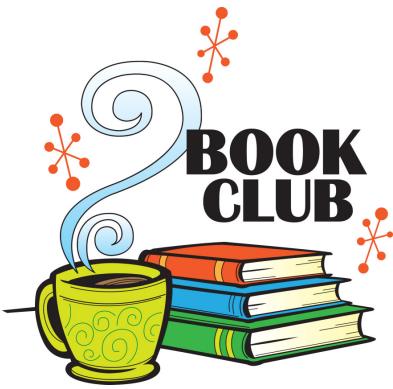
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	Ezekiel 9-12	Ezekiel 13-15	Ezekiel 16-17	Ezekiel 18-20	Ezekiel 21-22	Ezekiel 23-24
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Ezekiel 25-27	Ezekiel 28-30	Ezekiel 31-33	Ezekiel 34-36	Ezekiel 37-39	Ezekiel 40-42	Ezekiel 43-45
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Ezekiel 46-48	Daniel 1-3	Daniel 4-6	Daniel 7-9	Daniel 10-12	Hosea 1-7	Hosea 8-14
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Joel	Amos 1-5	Amos 6-9	Obadiah- Jonah	Micah 1-7	Nahum 1-3	Habakkuk- Zephaniah
28	29	30				
Haggai 1-2	Zechariah 1-7	Zechariah 8-14				

Yard cleanup crew worked to eliminate weeds, trim trees, put mulch around the roses, and clean the parking lot. Pictured are Pastor Brian, Micah, Jane, Ben and Grace. Not pictured are Stacie, Reese, and Josh.



**Samaritan's Purse** sends gift-filled **Operation Christmas Child** shoeboxes to children in need around the world together with the message of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. By filling ordinary shoeboxes full of toys and other fun items, you can be part of giving boys and girls what may be their first gift ever! Local churches in more than 100 nations hand out these Operation Christmas Child shoebox gifts at festive outreach events where the Gospel is presented in a child-friendly way. Each box bursting with items such as a soccer ball, doll, or stuffed animal becomes a tangible expression of God's love to the child, their family, and their community.





**Book Club** will meet September 10 at 10 AM. The books can be found in Fellowship Hall or you can contact Jane Uzzell.

Animal Shelter of Northeast Nebraska wish list. Please share what you can September thru October 8. Thank you!

NON-CLUMPING Cat Litter  
Purina One Dry Dog Food  
Purina One Dry Cat Food  
Purina One Dry Kitten Food  
Kitten Milk Replacer  
Tri-fold Paper Towels  
Laundry Detergent  
Bleach  
Floor Cleaner/Pine Sol  
55 Gallon heavy duty Trash Bags  
Gift Cards--from any of these: Walmart, Chewy, Hy-Vee, or Visa

The October 8 book club book is about a rescue dog. So in September, if you are able, please bring pet items to church. They will be given to the Animal Shelter of Northeast Nebraska when Lisa, the shelter manager comes to share information with us on October 8.

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	Jeannie Rix
16th	Cole Uzzell
18th	Sara Putters
26th	Lois Williams
28th	Sandy McConnell

Anniversaries

26th Pastor Brian and Andrea High



### **September 7**

**Communion:** Randy and Kay Neuhardt

**Ushers:** Stacie and Reese Uzzell

**Greeters:** Bonnie Dewell and Mike Synovec

**Reader:** Lori Williams

**Leader:** Scott Williams

**Flowers:**

### **September 14**

**Ushers:** Andrea High and Jane Uzzell

**Greeters:** Gene and Bonnie Kroeger

**Reader:** Verletta Olson

**Flowers:** Scott and Lori Williams

### **September 21**

**Ushers:** Karen Allyn and Barb Koenig

**Greeters:** Lynne Bichlmeier and Tom McConnell

**Reader:** Jane Uzzell

**Flowers:**

### **September 28**

**Ushers:** Bonnie and Gene Kroeger

**Greeters:** Scott and Lori Williams

**Reader:** Andrea High

**Flowers:**



### **October 5**

**Communion:** Bonnie and Gene Kroeger

**Ushers:** Pat Jenny and Susan Surber

**Greeters:** Randy and Kay Neuhardt

**Reader:** Tom McConnell

**Leader:** Jane Uzzell

**Flowers:**

### **October 12**

**Ushers:** Ben and Stacie Uzzell

**Greeters:** Verletta Olson and Andrea High

**Reader:** Reese Uzzell

**Flowers:** Mark and Vicki Walker

### **October 19**

**Ushers:** Bonnie Dewell and Rita Woodard

**Greeters:** Karen Allyn and Susan Surber

**Reader:** Randy Neuhardt

**Flowers:**

### **October 26**

**Ushers:** Verletta Olson and Mike Synovec

**Greeters:** Gene and Darlene Korthals

**Reader:** Scott Williams

**Flowers:**

# August

From 8/1/25 through 8/31/25

This does not include the deposit for 8/31

## Checking account information

Beginning balance	\$ 1,265.48
Transfer from Savings	\$ 3,500.00
Transfer from Ed Jones	\$ 5,000.00
Transfer from Scholarship	\$ 500.00
<u>Weekly deposits</u>	<u>\$ 6,475.00</u>
Subtotal	\$ 16,740.48
Salary	-\$ 7,212.58
Church Maintenance	-\$ 2,334.77
Office Expenses	-\$ 2,090.37
Mercy Meals	-\$ 200.00
Insurance	-\$ 1,031.08
Substitute Organist	-\$ 70.00
Nebraska Conference	---\$ 1,105.00
<u>Renner's</u>	<u>---\$ 500.00</u>
Final Balance	\$ 2,196.68

Office Expenses include Pastor's new laptop.



# ► September 2025

<b>Sun</b>	<b>Mon</b>	<b>Tue</b>	<b>Wed</b>	<b>Thu</b>	<b>Fri</b>	<b>Sat</b>
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1	2	3	4	5	6	
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OFFICE  
CLOSED

6:30 Youth  
Group

7	8	9	10	11	12	13
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9:00 Sunday  
School

Girl Scouts  
5:30-7

10 Book club

10:15 Worship

14	15	16	17	18	19	20
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9:00 Sunday  
School

10:15 Worship

6:30 Youth  
Group at First  
Baptist

21	22	23	24	25	26	27
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9:00 Sunday  
School

Girl Scouts  
5:30-7

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28	29	30
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# ► October 2025

<b>Sun</b>	<b>Mon</b>	<b>Tue</b>	<b>Wed</b>	<b>Thu</b>	<b>Fri</b>	<b>Sat</b>
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			1	2	3	4
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6:30 Youth  
Group at First  
Baptist

5	6	7	8	9	10	11
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9:00 Sunday  
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10:15 Worship

10 Book club

12	13	14	15	16	17	18
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9:00 Sunday School  
10:15 Worship

Girl Scouts  
5:30-7

6:30 Youth Group

19	20	21	22	23	24	25
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9:00 Sunday  
School  
10:15 Worship

26	27	28	29	30	31
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5:30-7

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