



# NEWSLETTER

"Sharing the hope of Jesus in a troubled world"

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**November 2025**

## United in Christ Lutheran Church

(608) 846-5902

[www.unitedinchristlutheranchurch.org](http://www.unitedinchristlutheranchurch.org)

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A congregation of the



Evangelical  
Lutheran Church  
in America

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**Regular Office Hours:** By Appointment

**Weekly Worship:** Sundays @ 8:30 a.m.

## From the Congregation President...

In the month of November we will be having Pastor Bob Moberg, Pastor Derek, and Pastor Bruce leading our Sunday services (I'm still working on scheduling the fifth Sunday). I'm working on the schedule for December and will soon start working on the plans for January as the pastors do get requests to lead services pretty far in advance. Pastor Rick has graciously agreed to lead our Christmas Eve service (I was finding that the group of pastors we have been using were not available due to family plans for Christmas). I will let Pastor Rick know that we'd be happy to have folks from Spring Prairie join us for the service at 4:00 if the earlier time works better for them and if our service is too early for any of you, Spring Prairie's Christmas Eve service is at 6:00.

I have received communications from Marie (from the synod staff) and the group of pastors from the area ELCA congregations regarding continuing to explore ways in which we may work cooperatively. It is too soon to know, but there could be the possibility of some type of sharing of pastors between congregations. We are not the only congregation that could be looking for a pastor who is part time. As the Council has discussed financial considerations related to our search for a pastor, one of the benefits we've identified from sharing a pastor with another church is the potential of a large saving on health insurance benefits. If we were to find a pastor for our congregation on a part time basis, we could need to pay the full cost of health insurance (a very large expense) while if we "split" a pastor with another church, the health insurance cost would also be split. If we had a half-time pastor getting health insurance through us, it would be a financial challenge (Pastor Jason didn't need to get health insurance through us which was a large savings).

As I'm writing this paragraph on Halloween, last night I was able to participate in a Zoom meeting with the pastors from the other 4 area ELCA churches who have been meeting and an in-person meeting is being planned for the evening of December 1st to be hosted at our church. This will

involve the pastors and 2 members from each of the congregations along with staff from the synod to continue exploring ways that we can work together. The intent is to have the 5 churches continue to communicate in the months ahead. Pastor Jason had been meeting for a year or so with the other pastors so this is a continuation of an ongoing conversation.

- Bob Harm

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## November Calendar

|                        |                                       |
|------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Sunday, November 2     | 8:30 - Worship - fellowship following |
| Sunday, November 9     | 8:30 - Worship - fellowship following |
| Sunday, November 16    | 8:30 - Worship - fellowship following |
| Tuesday, November 18   | 5:00 - Church Council meeting         |
| Wednesday, November 19 | 11:30 - Lunch Bunch (at BB Jack's)    |
| Sunday, November 23    | 8:30 - Worship - fellowship following |
| Sunday, November 30    | 8:30 - Worship - fellowship following |

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## Working For Christ in November

Altar Guild: Bev Harris  
Head Usher: Chet Gabris

### 11/02/2025

Ushers: Rona and Paul Anderson  
Reader: Rona Anderson  
Communion: Paul Anderson

### 11/09/2025

Ushers: Karen and Ron Millard  
Reader: Thomas Smith  
Communion: Chet Gabris

### 11/16/2025

Ushers: Julie and Dale Molnar  
Reader: Chandra Diring  
Communion: Bob Harm

### 11/23/2025

Ushers: Norm Harris and Mark Harris  
Reader: Julie Molnar  
Communion: Karen Millard

### 11/30/2025

Ushers: Henry Lipke and Marie Rasmussen-Hall  
Reader: Bob Harm  
Communion: Marie Rasmussen-Hall

## November Birthdays

11/06 > Kim Eighmy

11/20 > Lekarym Diring-Stroede

11/14 > Myraket Diring and Roscoe Neuens

11/28 > Norm Harris

## Financial Update – As of Tuesday, October 28, 2025

|                                  |   |                                               |
|----------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------------------|
| Offerings YTD                    | = | \$61,445.25 (Does not include 10/26 offering) |
| (Expected/Budgeted Offerings YTD | = | \$74,000.00)                                  |
| Expenses YTD                     | = | \$67,428.68                                   |

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## Prayer Concerns

**Rev. Elizabeth Eaton**, Presiding Bishop of the ELCA

**Rev. Joy Mortensen-Wiebe**, Bishop of the South-Central Synod of Wisconsin – ELCA

The **Evangelical Lutheran Church of America**

For the **people of United in Christ Lutheran Church**

**John Kincaid** – brother-in-law of Chet Gabris – at St. Mary's Care Center

**Heather Fjelstad-Bunce** – niece of Dennis Stephenson – has Leukemia

**Dorothy Hasey** – at Columbus Health & Rehab

**Joanne Quam** – continued rehabilitation at home

**Geno Lainberger** – at Madison Health & Rehab Center

**Kathy Olsen** – sister-in-law of Dick & Ann Olsen – lung cancer

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## October Church Council Meeting Highlights

Paul reported that offerings received so far this year are below projections, but our expenses have also been lower since Pastor Jason left and we've had substitute pastors. Expenses have been roughly \$5,500 over receipts, but we have funds to cover this shortfall. Paul has gotten a price for snow removal from the company that we used last year and the Council approved of having them do snow removal again this winter. We are planning to have Christmas Eve, but not a Christmas Day service this year. (While we liked having both the last couple years, for the sake of practicality when trying to find pastors to lead Christmas services, returning to what had been our practice for some time of not having a service on Christmas Day this year makes sense.) The Council talked about the possibility of locking the doors about 5 minutes after the start of services as a security precaution.

The Council will be meeting again November 18th at 5:00.



United in Christ  
Lutheran Church

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