

## Giving Thanks

*"Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever."* 1 Chronicles 16:34

Thinking of the turkey, mashed potatoes, dressing, corn, and the pies... oh, the pies! Thanksgiving is one of my favorite holidays – mainly because it follows a fairly basic rhythm: eat nonstop, play games, nap, repeat. There is an anticipation during Thanksgiving, because Christmas is right around the corner.

I suggest a challenge to really think about all the ways in which we are thankful. It is in times that are more difficult that we truly need to focus on the ways in which Christ is present in our lives. In Sunday School, we would cut out these large number 4's onto which we would write down everything for which we were thankful to create this "Thankful 4." It was a great exercise, and children were able to fill it up in a few minutes. What would happen if each of us created our own "Thankful 4"? Would it be easy to fill it up today? Why or why not? With what would the list begin?

A few events to prepare our hearts for the upcoming seasons of thanks are coming. On Wednesday, November 25, at 6:30 p.m., we will join the congregation from Peace Church for a Thanksgiving Eve service. This service will provide a corporate way of giving thanks to a Savior who continues to guide us each and every day. Additionally, there will be a Thanksgiving video coming your way from the Tipton Ministerial Association. Watch your emails for more information.

The season of thanks will continue as we prepare our hearts for Advent and the remembrance of the birth of Jesus Christ. We are thankful to be able to serve our community on December 12, 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. with a drive-thru dinner. As people come to pick up their meals, we will provide them with different live scenes of the Nativity – the greatest story ever told! We will need LOTS of help in all areas for this

**Fall Back 1 Hour**  
**Sunday, November 1**

event. It will be a free event to all with the option of a free-will offering. Please be in prayer about how you might be able to help with this wonderful outreach.

Finally, may we give thanks for the ways in which our Lord shows His goodness. As I remember back one year ago, I met many of you for the first time. It is a memory I will never forget. We would not have necessarily planned this year out the way it has happened, but we must trust in God's perfect plan. He was, is and is to come. May we give thanks that we have a God who is ever-present and that we get to be together. I am ever thankful for each one of you!

Pastor Kerri

## Thanksgiving Services

There will be a Thanksgiving Eve service on Wednesday, November 25, at 6:30 p.m. at Peace Church, 400 Maple St, Bennett. During the service we will be remembering all the ways in which we give thanks to the Lord our God for His many blessings.

Additionally, Sunday, November 22, you will be receiving a special Thanksgiving message from the Tipton Ministerial Association in your email. This message will also be posted on the website.

## Worship in November

Worship in November will be held in the sanctuary with safety protocols.

Safety Protocols include: masks inside at all times, maintain social distancing, ushers to seat people, exit from the back to the front, and hand sanitizer will be available.

Cookies will be available after worship "to-go" on the way out.

## Thanksgiving Meals

Women's Fellowship would like to invite you to help create Thanksgiving meals for those in need in our community. We will be collecting any traditional Thanksgiving food items: canned foods, boxed mashed potatoes, dressing, desserts, or gift cards for Family Foods and/or Walmart. Please drop donations off at the church. We will be accepting donations through Sunday, November 8. If you have any questions, please contact the church office.

## All Saints' Sunday

November 1

... remembering those we hold dear

Every November, on the first Sunday, we recognize All Saints' Day in our worship. Music, scripture, litanies and prayers all recall the ancestors of our faith -- the saints of God's church. We will include and honor those loved ones of our congregation who have died since the previous All Saints' Day as well as those who have been requested:

Connie Blair	Roberta Parks
Robert Bunn	Bernice Schluter
Linda Ann Donohue	Dot Schulz
Randy Evans	Evelyn Sterner
Elmer Hack	Alberta Thien
Marilyn Mathias	Tim Young
Joyce Morrow	

Families of these dear ones are reminded of this service and encouraged to invite their families and friends to join us. But all are invited to join in this Sunday as you remember the saints in your own lives. Think, too, of those you know who could find special meaning in this service.

## Stewardship Sunday

Stewardship Sunday will be Sunday, November 8, 2020, during our 10:00 worship service. During the service, we will be blessing all of the pledges received for the 2021 year. If you haven't filled out your 2021 Pledge Card yet, plan to bring it to the service to include it in the blessing. Please contact the office if you need a giving packet.

## Annual Reports

All Committee Chairs, please turn in your annual reports to the office by Wednesday, January 6. Please feel free to contact the office if you have questions on this year-in-review report.

## Christmas Supper & Live Nativity Scenes

**Saturday, December 12**

**5:00-7:00 p.m.**

**Serving Beef Sundaes & Pie**

**Drive-Thru Pick Up**

**Community welcome!**

**Free Will Offering**

## *Congratulations!*

Congratulations to Alicia & Alex Wulf on the birth of their daughter, Nora Colleen, born on October 5, 2020! Nora's grandmother is Shelley Cady. Her great-grandparents are Wayne & Bonnie Deerberg.

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## *In Sympathy*

### *Evelyn Edna Sterner*

**Born:** September 6, 1929

**Died:** October 10, 2020

**Family Members of First UCC:** David & Faye Young

### *Martha Jean Becker*

**Born:** March 3, 1951

**Died:** October 21, 2020

**Family Members of First UCC:** Mary & Jim Clark

### *Roberta Parks*

**Born:** November 9, 1925

**Died:** October 23, 2020

**Family Members of First UCC:** Rev. David & Susan Lorenzen, Mackenzie Lorenzen, Alexis Lorenzen, Hannah, Jeremy, Jayana & Brooks Bower

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## *Supporting First UCC*

There are many ways to continue giving and supporting the ministries of First UCC.

1. Go to the website at [firstucctipton.org](http://firstucctipton.org) and click on the "Online Offering" on the left side of the page. You can set up a one-time or recurring donation.

2. Mail your checks to First UCC Tipton, 600 Mulberry St., Tipton, IA 52772.

3. Call the office to set up your account for automatic withdrawal.

Thank you for your contributions!

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## *Poinsettias*

You are welcome to donate poinsettias to decorate the chancel during the Christmas season. (The first Sunday of Advent is Nov 29.) If you are donating in memory of a loved one, please notify the church office by Dec 20, so this may be printed in the bulletin. You may take the poinsettias home following the 11:00p Christmas Eve Service or by Jan 6 (Epiphany).

## *Youth Group Schedule*

All 5th-12th graders invited! Invite some friends!

**November 4** – 5:30 – 6:00 p.m. Dinner  
6:00 – 7:00 p.m. Focus: How do we change our way of thinking?

**November 11** – No youth group

**November 18** – 5:30 – 6:00 p.m. Dinner  
6:00 – 7:00 p.m. Focus: Love everyone?

**November 25** – 5:30 – 6:00 p.m. Dinner  
6:00 – 7:00 p.m. Focus: Thanksgiving Celebration

**December 2** – 5:30 – 6:00 p.m. Dinner  
6:00 – 7:00 p.m. Focus: Mission project – Giving to others

**December 9** – No youth group

**December 16** – 5:30 – 6:00 p.m. Dinner  
6:00 – 7:00 p.m. Christmas party – Bring your white elephant gift!

**December 23 and 30** – Christmas break, no youth group

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## *Members in Care Facilities*

Remember our members in care facilities by sending them a note encouraging them during this time of quarantine.

**Cedar Manor, 1200 Mulberry St, Tipton IA 52772**

- Millie Eiler
- Ina Hack
- Edith Steffen
- Emogene Stiff
- Gwen Thien

**Prairie Hills, 219 S Cedar St, Tipton IA 52772**

- Mary Casterline
- Joyce Hakeman
- Delores Rohlf

**Betty Ann Miller, Clarence Assisted Living, 408 2nd Ave, Clarence IA 52216**

**Gene Morrow, Windmill Manor, 2332 Liberty Dr, Coralville IA 52241**

**Beth Looker, Highland Ridge, 100 Village View Cir Apt 59, Williamsburg IA 52361**

**Jenny Morrow, Zearing Health Care Center, 404 E Garfield St, Zearing, IA 50278**

## *First Friday*

It was a beautiful morning today, October 2, as we gathered to greet the High School students & staff for October's 1st Friday.

We did NOT run out of donuts this morning, we served 67. We also were able to extend our wishes for a happy Friday and start of a new month to a number of students that passed by on their way to school.

Many thanks to Pastor Kerri, Ron and Lois Salmonson, Deb Schwitzer, Mary Barnum, & Nancy Mathias for their help. It was so wonderful to have you all. Each month I wonder how I would do this alone and am so thankful that has never happened.

An added bonus for me, I boxed the "leftovers" and delivered them to some of our members that are spending most of their time in their homes during this unusual time. The smiles I get when I knock on their door and hand them a donut just warms my heart.

It is a fun time, the students are all so friendly and appreciative. It is just a wonderful mission. We could not do it without your generous donations of money, juice boxes, time and prayers. Thank you.

ANYONE is welcome to join us on Friday November 6 at 8 A.M. There is no "work" to this job, just bring your cheerful voice and a smile and jump right in.

BLESSINGS TO YOU ALL,  
NANCY HIPPLE

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## *Technology Committee*

Do you have any interest in technology? Would you like to learn? We are in need of one or two people to learn the steps of recording the services each week. This is not a difficult process, but it will require some training. Please contact Pastor Kerri or the church office if you are interested in learning more about this opportunity.

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## *Christmas Survey*

Please be aware that you may be receiving a short survey regarding the Christmas Eve service in your email. It is understood that your answers are a "best guess" at this point; however, we want to be assured that we have proper spacing and protocols in place for all who come. This is a special service that we want all to experience. Services will be Livestreamed.

## Thank You!

APPLAUSE! APPLAUSE! Nineteen knitted and crocheted items were sent to the Domestic Violence Intervention Program in September. These were donated by the Methodist Prayer Shawl project, perhaps UCC members contributed to this as well. Imagine how comforting these will be to people in crisis. Thanks to all who contributed. Jan Esbeck

Thank you to all who have helped with October worship services. Thank you for making a Kingdom difference!

Thank you Shirley Pinegar, Alice Whitlatch, and Dean Eilers for assembling the October newsletter!

Thank you Pat & Bill Barglof for the use of the sound system each Sunday for the outdoor services!

Thank you Ken & Carolyn Herring for providing coffee at the park for Sunday worship!

Thank you Dean Eilers & Jody Schroeder for washing the Sanctuary, Fireside Room, and Fellowship Hall windows!

Thank you Lois Hartig for perforating the pledge cards and assembling the stewardship mailing!

Thank you Scott Meyer and Peace Church for the use of the large screen for Movie Night!

Thank you Dave Pinegar for setting up the large screen in the back of his pickup for Movie Night!

## General Fund

### September

Beginning Balance 9/1/20.....	\$-1,955.78
Income.....	\$6,367.45
Expenses.....	\$9,509.37

### Year-to-Date (YTD)

Beginning Balance 1/1/20.....	\$4,822.18
Income Year-to-Date.....	\$87,893.52
Expenses Year-to-Date.....	\$97,813.40
Ending Balance 9/30/20 .....	\$-5,097.70

### Building Maintenance - YTD

Beginning Balance 1/1/20....	\$24,185.25
Income Year-to-Date.....	\$4,793.50
Expenses Year-to-Date.....	\$19,818.09
Ending Balance 9/30/20 .....	\$9,160.66

## Thank You!

Thank you Deb Schwitzer for teaching Confirmation class!

Thank you Shelley Cady and Nancy Hipple for providing and serving yummy suppers for Youth Gathering each week!

Thank you to all who donated toward the technology equipment for the sanctuary! The items have been ordered.

Thank you to all who covered the office and janitorial hours while Janet was on vacation!

Thank you to the work of Bill Schwitzer, Janet Shotwell, and our Deacons for their work on the CARES Act Loan. The Loan has officially transitioned into a grant! Thanks be to God!

Thank you to Linda Jacobsen, Pam Freet, and Katie Kelly for planning the Pumpkinfest! Thank you to those who donated food items, pumpkins, firepits, and supplies as well as the youth who helped with the games. Despite the cold temps and rain, it was a wonderful time!

## Eastern Iowa Association Annual Meeting

The Eastern Iowa Association (EIA) Annual Meeting was September 20, 2020, on Zoom. Much of the meeting was focused on reports from the year: Treasurer's, Committee on Ministry, and Nominating Committee.

Overall, there has been less income than 2019; however, the expenses were much less as well. Lack of travel, youth programs, association programs, and fall meeting meals contributed to the lower number of expenses. There was discussion about the number of spots left to fill on the committees. People were asked to prayerfully consider serving.

Finally, after the conference reports and installation of officers, there was a great message about being connected to the true vine, Our Lord and Savior. The service was a great reminder of our connectional system and its value.

### Save the Date

**Sunday, December 13**

**Children's Christmas Program**

**during 10:00 a.m. worship**

## UCC Tri-Conference Annual Meeting

For those who do not know we are now UCC Tri-Conference that includes Iowa, Nebraska, and South Dakota. The Annual Tri-Conference Meeting was held Oct 17th as a Virtual Event starting at 9am and ran until 4pm. Due to Covid 19 Pastor Kerri, Nancy Hipple and Sharon Hodgden met at the church to attend the conference together via a Zoom meeting. After the Tri-Conference in the morning, Iowa held a Conference meeting in the afternoon.

The Tri-Conference started with a welcome from UCC President John Dorhauer and then worship with a Keynote Speaker who was Rev Naomi Washington-Leapheart. At noon during our lunch there was a slide presentation honoring churches in several ways; 5 for 5 and OCWM (Tipton was included in this), Church Anniversaries, Clergy Ordination Anniversaries and Necrology and Babies.

In the afternoon: We joined Associate Conference Minister Ellis Arnold via Zoom. We had trivia time while everyone was coming on board. Then we welcomed several new staff members, approved minutes from last year, and approved the new 2021 Compensation Guidelines for Supporting our Ministry.

We also talked and discussed about BRAVE SPACE which is our call to be an LGBTQ+ Affirming Church and an Anti-Racist Church.

We also heard from the Nominating Committee on all the members that are going off and coming on to different boards and committees. We also viewed the Financial Reports for the Conference.

All this information and reports from the meeting can be found in the binder named "Joint Annual Meetings 2020" in the Library.

**WHY** are we called to be the United Church of Christ in this time and place?

*To live into God's extravagant welcome and advocate for justice. So that all know love, safety, belonging and dignity.*

Sharon Hodgden and Nancy Hipple  
Delegates to the Tri-Conference

# November

Sun, Nov 1	Turn Clocks Back 1 Hour
9:00a	Sunday School
10:00a	Worship, Communion, All Saints' Sunday in Church Sanctuary & Online
Wed, Nov 4	5:30p Youth Gathering
6:00p	Christian Education Meeting
Thu, Nov 5	7:00p Trustees Meeting
Fri, Nov 6	8:00a First Friday Donuts
Sun, Nov 8	9:00a Sunday School
10:00a	Worship Church Sanctuary & Online
Mon, Nov 9	1:00p Blood Drive
5:00p	Girl Scout Troop 4231 Meeting
Wed, Nov 11	Veteran's Day
6:00p	Deacon's Meeting
7:00p	Council Meeting
Sat, Nov 14	11:00a Shared Blessings @ Methodist Church
Sun, Nov 15	9:00a Sunday School
10:00a	Worship Church Sanctuary & Online
Mon, Nov 16	Grapevine Newsletter Articles Due
Tue, Nov 17	7:30p PRC Meeting
Wed, Nov 18	5:30p Youth Gathering
Sat, Nov 21	9:00a Food Pantry @ Foursquare
Sun, Nov 22	9:00a Sunday School
10:00a	Worship Church Sanctuary & Online
Wed, Nov 25	9:00a Women's Fellowship Ex Board Mtg
6:30p	Thanksgiving Eve Service @ Peace Church, Bennett
Thu, Nov 26	Thanksgiving, Offices Closed
Sat, Nov 28	11:00a Shared Blessings @ Methodist Church
Sun, Nov 29	9:00a Sunday School
10:00a	Worship Church Sanctuary & Online

## Office Hours:

Janet's office hours: Mon, Wed, Thurs 10a-5p, Fri 10a-1p.

Pastor Kerri is around the office Tues-Fri 8a-5p and is always available on her cell phone: 319-541-5912.

Call if you have any questions or concerns.

# First

United Church of Christ

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**Greg Hipple**  
Council President  
**(319) 430-6664**

## This N That

**Pastoral Visit:** If you are in the hospital or wish to have a pastoral visit, please contact the church office (563-886-6361) to arrange a visit with Pastor Kerri Sandusky.

**Prayers:** If you wish to be prayed for call the office (563-886-6361) to be added to the prayer list. You may also fill out the form on the "Prayer Requests" page of the website ([www.firstucctipton.org](http://www.firstucctipton.org)). If you would like to pray for those in need, let the office know and we'll add you to the Prayer Circle.

**Did you know?** If you use Bill Pay through your bank, then you can set up your giving as a recurring bill and never worry about forgetting to give to your church.

**Council Minutes** are posted on the bulletin board outside of the secretary's office.

To keep current with all of **First UCC happenings**, check the calendar on our website page at [www.firstucctipton.org](http://www.firstucctipton.org).

Remember to **update the church** when your phone number or address changes or when there's a birth in your family.

## LITURGISTS

Nov 1	Whitney Gehrs
Nov 8	Pat Barglof
Nov 15	Larry Hanon
Nov 22	Hobert Flory
Nov 29	Jared Gehrs

**FLOWERS:** Nancy Hipple, Teresa King

**GREETERS:** Dean Eilers, Kathy Sparrow

**USHERS:** Bill Schwitzer, Buzz Achey, Dave Pinegar, Sharon Niles

**ELDERS SERVING COMMUNION:** Special Communion Kits will be available. If watching from home, have a piece of bread/cracker and juice/water available to participate.

- 1) Marcia Meyers
- 2) Sheryl Gregory,
- 3) Alice Whitlatch
- 4) Larry Hanon

**DEACONS COUNTING OFFERING:**  
Mary Clark, Bill Schwitzer

**AFTER-SERVICE TREAT HOSTS**  
(Please refrain from making treats with peanuts, due to peanut allergies, and consider bringing something for those with diabetes.) All items must be individually bagged/wrapped.

Nov 1	Bill & Deb Schwitzer, Stan Hack, Bev Penningroth
Nov 8	Women's Fellowship Executive Board
Nov 15	Nancy Hipple, Teresa King, Greg & Pat Hipple, Gary & Chelsey Hipple
Nov 22	Scott & Penny Pratt, David & Faye Young, Ken & Carolyn Herring
Nov 29	Bruce & Barb Cary, Josh Meier, Nathan & Amber Meier, Karla Gaul

## ANNIVERSARIES

Nov 3	Sean & Laura Odeen
Nov 4	Elly & Nathan Lattz
Nov 6	Chris & Tammy Hatland
Nov 10	Angela & Jim Knox
Nov 16	Jim & Mary Clark
Nov 17	David & Faye Young
Nov 18	Randy & Elizabeth Shumaker
Nov 25	Abby & Josh Hein

We apologize if we inadvertently missed your birthday or anniversary. Please contact the church office to have it added to the list.

## BIRTHDAYS

Nov 2	Nov 15
Peyton Gaertner	Katie Kelly
Nov 7	Linda Weaver
Aidan Hodgden	Nov 16
Ryker Jackson	Troy Mente
Nov 9	Nov 18
Macee Meier	Jenny Morrow
Nov 10	Nov 19
Pat Barglof	Alicia Meier
Terry Mente	Nov 23
Nelson Meyers	Maggie Meier
Nov 12	Nov 25
Jody Schroeder	Don Lamp
Nov 14	Brinlee Stumbo
Maxson Christian	Nov 26
Karla Gaul	Penny Pratt
Addison Mente	Nov 29
	Bill Schwitzer

**Pledges Still Accepted.**  
Contact the office with questions.