



FROM THE PASTOR

Dearest Members and Friends,

As we prepare for the upcoming Advent season, we're excited to announce a new approach that invites us to delve deeper into the rich themes of anticipation and hope. This year, we're extending our Advent observance to seven weeks, beginning on November 10th with the traditional lighting of our Advent wreath on December 1st.

Traditionally, Advent imaginations have centered on the joyful arrival of baby Jesus in the manger. However, the Revised Common Lectionary invites us to expand our understanding during this sacred time. The texts and prayers of Advent remind us not only of Christ's first coming but also of His promised return. As we journey through November, we'll explore themes that point us toward Reign of Christ, emphasizing that the message of Advent is not just about awaiting a child but also about preparing for a King.

This extended observance offers a unique opportunity to reflect on the continuity between the ending of the church year and the beginning of a new one. We find ourselves waiting for Christ to come again, blending the longing for the child in the manger with the awe of Christ as the crucified King. This duality enriches our faith and deepens our understanding of the season.

Advent devotional materials will be emailed on November 1st, with printed copies available at church for those who prefer printed documents.

You are invited to join in this journey as we explore these themes together and prepare our hearts for the joy and hope that Advent brings. We will welcome both the tender imagery of the Christ child and the powerful promise of His return.

I look forward to sharing this meaningful experience with all of you!

Peace and blessings,

Pastor Bunny Dillard



Adult Bible Study



Pastor Bunny is excited to invite you to our upcoming Bible study sessions each Sunday and Wednesday! Starting October 27th, we will dive into the Gospel reading featured in the following week's worship service. These gatherings will provide an opportunity to explore the text more deeply and gain insights into how the people of Jesus' time would have understood the lesson.

We encourage everyone to bring their thoughts, questions, and reflections as we engage in lively discussion. These sessions will not only deepen our understanding of the Scriptures but also foster connections among participants as we share our insights and experiences.

Whether you're a seasoned Bible scholar or just starting your journey, all are welcome!

- Sundays, from 9:00 - 9:40 AM
- Wednesdays, from 10:00 - 11:00 AM

New Church Directory – Last Call!

The directory is being developed on an online site at InstantChurchDirectory.com. We believe this to be a secure site and only people with an email address in the directory can access it online. Once we have a good number of entries, we will be able to print directories for those without email or just prefer a hard copy.

In the next few months, we will continue to enter information such as names, address, phone numbers and email addresses – basically anything you wish to be published for our church members only. There will also be opportunities to have your family pictures taken at church. You may choose to send in your own family picture – either one recently taken professionally or just from a phone camera. If you prefer, you may submit your contact information and not have a picture included.

If you have email, once your information is entered, I will notify you with directions to access the directory. You will sign in as a member using your email. Next, you will be sent an email to verify your email. Then you can create your own password and view the directory online. Your entry only will have an edit button so you can make any changes needed.

This is the perfect time to get a new directory. The last one was done in 2014 and now we have a new Pastor, along with many congregation changes.

Feel free to contact Sue with any questions or concerns. Also, please call or send in your information so you can be included.

Sueclapp73@gmail.com or 319-360-9021

Harvest Sunday/ Phil and Andy's – November

Sunday, November 24th at our 10:00 service. Please bring a non-perishable food items that can be donated to a local shelter. Our goal is to donate items that would be helpful for preparing a Thanksgiving dinner. Please bring your donations to church with you on or before Sunday, November 24th.

Some ideas for donation would be:

- Canned vegetables
- Canned fruit/cranberry sauce
- Cream of mushroom/chicken soup
- Instant mashed potatoes
- Stuffing mix
- Instant gravy
- Box's of favored Jell-O



This is a very tangible way of showing God's love to those less fortunate and show our thankfulness for what God has provided for us.

Thrivent Members

Are you a member of Thrivent Financial? Do you know that you can apply for funds to be used for activities at our church? Have you ever checked to see if you have Thrivent Choice Dollars that can be sent to our church? Recently, Sue Clapp and Dale Hovden were able to secure some funds to support the luncheon at Pastor Bunny's Installation and for some of the upcoming Youth Fundraising Activities. If you have investments and are interested in learning more about how to access funding for other church events, please let Sue Clapp know about your interest.

Mitten Tree



OSLC Mitten Tree will be up and ready to receive your gifts by Sunday, November 3rd. All donations will be going to the Linn County Child Development Center located at 1020 6th Street SE, Cedar Rapids, IA 52401. The Linn County Child Development Center works to advance the dignity and well-being of at-risk and low-income children, youth and families by providing access to high quality, comprehensive, strength-based services that equips them with a sound foundation for lifelong development, family success and tools for a thriving and meaningful future. They are in need of hats, socks, scarves, mittens (they work better than gloves because it is hard to get those little fingers into gloves) and underwear for ages 3 – 5. We will be collecting items until the Women's joint Christmas brunch, which is being held on Thursday, December 5th.

Youth News:

Reminder! Sunday School is every Sunday at 9 AM. **All are welcome!!**

Bibles for Confirmation Students You may notice over the next few weeks that there are Bibles sitting on the table. These Bibles have been purchased by the church to be given to the confirmation class so they each have a bible of their own to use not only during class times, but to keep throughout their faith journey. You will also notice there are highlighters, pens, etc around the Bibles and **we invite each member of the congregation to make these Bibles extra special by writing a special note, highlighting your favorite verse, or anything else** to encourage these kiddos as they navigate confirmation and beyond. They will be finding these verses and notes as we progress through the next 2 years and will hopefully find them uplifting and enlightening. Please take a moment to add your special touch to each Bible!

Confirmation classes will start **November 13th from 5:30 – 7:00** The first 30 minutes of class on the 13th will be a parent/student informational meeting then students will continue until 7:00. Moving forward, we will be serving dinner to our confirmation students from 5:30 – 6:00 and while we realize that pizza is really easy – it also gets really old really fast. We would love it if we could get members of Our Saviors to sign up to serve a meal on Wednesday nights. It can be really simple!!! There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board outside Therese's office. Thanks in advance for supporting our young people!

Youth Cookie Baking Saturday, November 30th, the youth will be meeting at church at 9:00 AM to bake cookies and other goodies that will go out with Homebound Communion on Sunday, December 1st. We need volunteers to make cookie dough and bring it to church (unbaked) so the kids will have some cookies to bake! Please include instructions on how to prepare your cookies. There will be a sign up sheet on the bulletin board for those who are willing to donate some dough!

Save the Date! Sunday, December 15th will be Youth and Bells Sunday!! The bells will play and the kids will be doing a special Christmas skit! Stay tuned for more details!

Pumpkin Carving If you were at church on Sunday, November 27th you got to see the artistic talents of your young people and their pumpkin carving skills. You also were able to vote for your "favorite" pumpkin. The results are in!!

#1 – Korver Sindelar

#2 – 3-way tie: Fiona Sindelar Evy Fiester Rupert Sindelar

#3 – William Anderson

Readers

November 3 – Dave Sampson
November 10 – Dale Hovden
November 17 – Nancy Greer
November 24 – Therese Plummer

****Readers can pick up their reading in the
“Reader” mailbox located between the
offices in the back hallway**

Assisting Ministers

November 3 – Hannah Plummer
November 10 – Nancy Greer
November 17 – Jeremiah Miller
November 24 – Hannah Plummer

Ushers/Greeters

November 3 – Strottman’s
November 10 – Dave Sampson, Marv Houg,
Tom Zuber
November 17 – John Fiester family
November 24 – Mark & Suzanne Schmitt,
& Ann Larson

Prayer for Pastor

November 3 – Dave Case
November 10 – Ardy Erickson
November 17 – Derek Sindelar
November 24 – Therese Plummer
December 1 – Diana Emig

Acolytes

November 3 – Natalie Fiester
November 10 – Korver Sindelar
November 17 – Jeremiah Miller
November 24 – Evy Fiester

Children’s Sermon

November 3 – JoAnn Kohl
November 10 – Pastor Bunny
November 17 – Hannah Plummer
November 24 – JoAnn Kohl
December 1 – Hannah Plummer

Sunday School Teaching Schedule

November 3 – Rachel Sindelar
November 10 – Natalie Fiester & Jeremiah
Miller
November 17 – Hannah Plummer
November 24 – Rachel Sindelar

Serving Our Congregation

Bunny Dillard – Head Pastor
Sue Clapp– Congregation President
David Sampson – Treasurer
Therese Plummer – Parish/Financial Secretary
Hannah Plummer – Children & Youth
Ministries Director
Forrest Green – Music Director
Terri Hodge – Bell Choir Director

Assisting Ministers Needed!!

Have you ever thought about being an Assisting Minister but didn’t think it was possible because you didn’t (or couldn’t) sing the liturgy?? There are other options. . . the liturgy does NOT have to be sung – it can be read!! Parish & Staff is looking for volunteers to join the Assisting Minister Ministry. We are going to be down to 2 Assisting Ministers when Jeremiah leaves December 2nd – w nee help! If you have any interest at all – do not be shy!! You can contact any of our current assisting ministers - Hannah, Jeremiah or Nancy, they would be happy to give you any details or feel free to talk to Marcia Adix or Ann Larson from Parish & Staff. Thank you!

Women's Joint Circle Christmas Brunch

The Circles are planning their joint Christmas Luncheon on Thursday, December 5th at 11:00 in God's Foyer. All OSLC women and friends are invited. Lunch will include ham sliders, salad, chips and a dessert and a free will offering will be taken. Evelyn Dulan, who is a fabulous story teller, is the entertainment and will tell her version of "T'was the Night Before Christmas". Please let Ann Larson or Pat Ask know if you have questions.

OSLC Christmas Party

The annual OSLC Christmas party will be held on Sunday, December 8. The event will start at 5:30pm with hors d'oeuvres. Dinner will be catered by Dostal's Catering and will be served at 6pm. The menu includes tossed salad, zesty herbed chicken, rolled stuffed pork, party potatoes, green beans, fruit salad, rolls, dessert, coffee and punch.

Entertainment will be provided by David Brauhn, a member of The Unstrung Heroes. He plays guitar, sings, tells stories and jokes, and promises fun audience participation activities.

We will be collecting a free will offering the night of the dinner. We will need an accurate count of those attending. The sign-up sheet will be posted at church from Sunday, November 3, through Sunday, November 24. Once again, this year, we will be coordinating rides to and from the party for those unable to drive. Those needing rides and those willing to give rides will be able to indicate as such on the sign-up sheet.

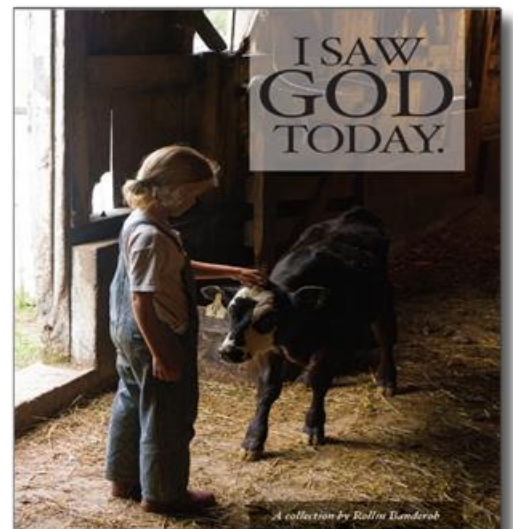
Fellowship Hour after Sunday Service

The sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board across from Therese's office. Pat and Diane have graciously agreed to continue to make coffee so all that needs to be provided is treats. Our Fellowship hour is a very special time where we can catch up with our Christian family and is enjoyed by so many. Please don't forget to sign up.

Rollin Banderob (Pastor Lynn's husband)

Former member Rollin Banderob, husband of our former pastor, Pastor Lynn, is self-publishing his first photobook called *I saw God today*. It includes 19 color photographs and personal reflections contributed by fifteen individuals - including Robert Geuder. It will only be available by pre-ordered through Monday, November 11, 2024.

Please join us at a good ol' Beers & Hymns (and Carols) celebration on Sunday, Dec. 8 at BIT Brewery in Central City for the book launch! See rohuphoto.com for more information and to order. Please share this with anyone you know who might be interested. This book will make a great Christmas gift too!



Trunk or treat

Pastor Bunny and Hannah had a super fun time at Gloria Dei's Trunk or Treat! There were about 300 kids in attendance with 10 super fun trunks! Thank you to everyone who helped with our candy stash and those who came by to Trunk or Treat!



Noisy Offering Trainee



Paul Anderson

Pumkin Carving Contest



1st Place Winner - Korver Sindelar

Images from Children's Message

