



Ubandale
United
Church of
Christ

God is still speaking 9

"No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are invited and welcome here."

A Just Peace and Open and Affirming congregation

July 29, 2018

10:00 a.m.

TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

The liturgical color for the Sundays after Pentecost is green representing the growth and vitality of the Church.



SERVING AT URBANDALE UCC THIS SUNDAY

Liturgist: TBD

Ushers & Greeters: Diane and Bob Shoemaker, Bob Harding, Jim Benda

Acolytes: Sheridan Family

Nursery: Anjy Allen, Deb Beery

Opening the Church: Today, Bob Shoemaker **Next Sunday,** Jerry Woods

Sound Booth: Scott Gardner

GATHERING

We extend a special welcome to our visitors. Nametags and information packets are available at the welcome table at the main entrance to the sanctuary. Childcare is available in the nursery for children ages birth through seven. Please see an usher for location if you wish to use the nursery.

GREETING

"There can be no keener revelation of a society's soul than the way in which it treats its children."
~Nelson Mandela

TIME OF FRIENDSHIP

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

"I'm Just a Poor Wayfaring Stranger"

Robert Hughes

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES *Their flames symbolizing God's Spirit.*

❖ *This symbol invites the congregation to stand in body or spirit*
Bold type indicates a unison response

❖ CALL TO PRAISE AND PRAYER

ONE: We have come to this time and place to praise the One who gives life!

ALL: We have come to celebrate our humanity and praise God's divinity!

ONE: We gather as a community of faith to share a journey of discovery!

ALL: We look within to understand ourselves and look to the Spirit to experience God.

ONE: We join as God's people to lift our hearts and voices in worship!

ALL: As our lives are renewed by God's love, our spirits overflow with love and joy!

❖ OPENING HYMN

“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You”

Hymnal 4

❖ INVOCATION

PROCLAMATION

SPECIAL MUSIC

“Trusting in Thee”
Michael Walters

Claude L. Fichthorn

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Ephesians 3:14-21 (The Inclusive Bible)

¹⁴That is why I kneel before Abba God, ¹⁵from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. ¹⁶And I pray that God, out of the riches of divine glory, will strengthen you inwardly with power through the working of the Spirit. ¹⁷May Christ dwell in your hearts through faith, so that you, being rooted and grounded in love, ¹⁸will be able to grasp fully the breadth, length, height and depth of Christ’s love and, with all God’s holy ones, ¹⁹experience this love that surpasses all understanding, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. ²⁰To God – whose power now at work in us can do immeasurably more than we ask or imagine – ²¹to God be glory in the Church and in Christ Jesus through all generations, world without end! Amen.

Paul, assuming he actually wrote this letter, inserts the standard blessing and doxology at this point, as if he were preparing to bring his letter to a close. The letter then continues for three more chapters! He may have simply thought of more to say, or perhaps the early church added a portion of another letter.

SERMON

“Knowing the Unknown”

Pastor Dave

PRAYER HYMN

“A New Hymn for Immigrant Families”
(tune: O Sacred Head Now Wounded)

When Jesus went to Egypt, safe on his mother’s arm,
His parents stayed beside him to keep him safe from harm.
And when they crossed the border, they were allowed to be
Together – seeking refuge – a Holy Family.

O God, we pray for children and families coming here
Now facing separation, and filled with grief and fear.
For children, loved and treasured, are ripped from loving kin.
This deed, by any measure, is torture. It’s a sin!

O God, you’re like a mother who won’t forsake her own.
You’re like a loving father who welcomes his son home.
Now give us, by your Spirit, the strength to challenge wrong,
To seek the best for children, and keep all families strong.

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RESPONSE

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Abba who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

PRESENTATION OF OUR GIFTS

ONE: God is good!

ALL: All the time!

ONE: All the time!

ALL: God is good!

ONE: Let us share the goodness of our God!

When the offering plate comes to you, we invite you to hold it for a moment and consider the many gifts that you can share. You may pray for a person or a ministry; you may commit yourself to a specific act of compassion; or you may resolve to work on a relationship that is in need of repair. Allow the Spirit to guide your thoughts.

OFFERTORY

“Melody”

Thomas Arne

Please sign the Pew Pad and pass it to your neighbor.

❖ DOXOLOGY

tune: *Lasst uns erfreuen*

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God, all creatures here below;

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise God the source of all our gifts!

Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!

Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

❖ PRAYER OF DEDICATION

❖ CLOSING HYMN

“O for a World”

Hymnal 575

The candles are extinguished.

God's Spirit remains as a living flame in the hearts of God's people.

❖ BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“We've A Story to Tell to the Nations”

James Denton

Please reshelve the hymnals and put this used Bulletin in the recycle basket.

PRAYER CONCERNS

To list someone in this section, *with their permission*, please email staff@urbucc.org by the weekly bulletin deadline.

Keep in your thoughts and prayers:

Jamel Carter...Don Walters...Diann Miller

And our dear ones: **Alma Sims...Lee & Margaret Messenger**

To notify the staff of a prayer concern, or to send a note of caring and support to someone, please use the cards in the pew rack and drop them in the offering plate. Please indicate whether prayer concerns should be forwarded to our Prayer Chain. Notes will be mailed on Tuesday, provided we have the recipient's full name and the sender's signature.

The Prayer Shawl Ministry provides prayer shawls to people experiencing difficult circumstances or life transitions. For more information, email prayer.shawls@urbucc.org.

This Week at UCC

Sunday, July 29

10:00 am Worship

Special Music: Michael Walters

12:30 pm Matu Bethel Church

12:30 pm Light Mission Pentecostal Church

Tuesday, July 31

11:00 am Staff Meeting

Wednesday, August 1

7:30 pm AA

Saturday, August 4

3:00 pm Light Mission Pentecostal Church

6:00 pm Matu Bethel Church

Upcoming Sundays

Sunday, August 5

10:00 am Worship: Communion

Special Music: Gail George

12:30 pm Matu Bethel Church

12:30 pm Light Mission Pentecostal Church

Sunday, August 12

10:00 am Worship

Special Music: Scott Miller

12:30 pm Matu Bethel Church

12:30 pm Light Mission Pentecostal Church

Back to School Backpacks

It's time to help our school-aged neighbors! UCAN distributes the bags at the Back to School Immunization Clinic on Thursday, August 2nd. Please take a backpack (or more) home with you to fill. The tag on the outside and the letter inside lists everything needed. Please be sure to leave the tag attached so we know what age group the bag is for during distribution.

Please return bags to the Narthex (under the table) by Sunday, July 29. Please contact Jennifer Gardner: potf2@msn.com or 515-577-7980 with any questions.

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UCC COOKBOOKS STILL AVAILABLE

Cookbooks are still available for purchase in the main office for \$10. We will continue selling and plan other fundraisers, so our youth can attend General Synod next summer in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Thank for your support!

URBANDALE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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www.urbucc.org

www.facebook.com/UrbandaleUCC

“We welcome into this community of faith, and affirm the participation in all aspects of church life, persons of every age, race, gender identity and expression, nationality, ability, and sexual orientation. We will continue our efforts toward inclusiveness, and stand against all forms of discrimination. We will empower ourselves, our children, and one another to be fully present in the world, living in Christ’s image and striving for justice and peace.”*

***The statement adopted 25 years ago did not include the words “identity and expression”.**

Staff

The Rev. David P. Sickelka, Senior Pastor.....david.sickelka@urbucc.org

The Rev. Amy Murray, Ministry Program Coordinator amy.murray@urbucc.org

Steven Linn, Music Program Director steven.linn@urbucc.org

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John Chaplin

Adjunct Minister for LGBTQ Concerns & Community Outreachjohn.chaplin@urbucc.org

Ministry Leaders

Caregiving Ministries:

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Caregivers 2Bonita Wiley caregivers.2@urbucc.org

Prayer Circleprayer.circle@urbucc.org

Prayer Shawl Ministryprayer.shawls@urbucc.org

Leadership Team Officers:

Moderator.....Gail George moderator@urbucc.org

Vice-Moderator.....Bob Harding.....vicemoderator@urbucc.org

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Teams:

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Christian Growth.....Chris Jordanchristian.growth@urbucc.org

Membership TeamJon Greising membership.team@urbucc.org

Social Media TeamSandy Gahn.....social.media@urbucc.org

Worship & Music.....Paul Johnson paul.johnson@urbucc.org

Church Office hours are Monday to Friday 9:00 am to 3:00 pm

For pastoral care, please contact Pastor Dave at 276-0625 (church office), 720-6389 (cell) or david.sickelka@urbucc.org. Pastor Dave is off on Mondays but will still respond to emergencies if you call or text.