



Urbandale
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

September 30, 2018

10:00 a.m.

NINETEENTH 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: Zach Norton

Ushers & Greeters: Margaret Christian, Barb Woodsmall,
Adam Dirks, Sharon Johnson

Acolytes: Olivia & Nicole Berger

Nursery: Anjy Allen, Deb Beery

Opening the Church: **Today**, Bob Shoemaker **Next Sunday**, Chris Jordan

Sound Booth: Scott Gardner

Flowers were given by Anne Clark in honor of Lily Clark’s birthday.

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

“You were made perfectly to be loved - and surely I have loved you, in the idea of you, my whole life long.”
~Elizabeth Barrett Browning

TIME OF FRIENDSHIP

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

“Be Thou My Vision”

Eleanor Whitsett

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: Listen, Children of God, the One who offers you grace and life invites you to be renewed and made whole!

ALL: Our scars and wounds have diminished our ability to love, and the loneliness of our existence looms before us.

ONE: Take heart, all you little ones, the God who holds you dear clears the way for you to come home, so that you may again celebrate life!

ALL: Even though our spirits are bruised and aching, we find hope in the promise of a fresh start.

ONE: Come, people of God, sing and pray and share in the worship of God! For we are never more alive than when we gather to offer our praise!

ALL: Let us free our voices and our minds, so that we may hear what God would say to us, and express the joy that we find in living in the light of our Creator!

❖ OPENING HYMN “God, Speak to Me, That I May Speak” Hymnal 531

❖ INVOCATION

PROCLAMATION

SPECIAL MUSIC “You Are Mine” David Haas
 Adult Choir
 Carol Looney, Flute

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Mark 9:38-50 (The Inclusive Bible)

³⁸John said to Jesus, “Teacher, we saw someone using your name to expel demons, and we tried to stop it since this person was not part of our group.”

³⁹Jesus said in reply, “Don’t try to stop it. No one who performs a miracle using my name can speak ill of me soon thereafter! ⁴⁰Anyone who is not against us is with us. ⁴¹The Truth is, anyone who gives you a cup of cold water in my name because you belong to the Messiah will certainly not go without a reward.

⁴²“Rather than make one of these little ones who believe in me stumble, it would be better to be thrown into the sea with a large millstone hung around your neck.

⁴³“If your hand causes you to sin, cut it off. It would be better to enter Life crippled than to have hands and go into Gehenna, where the fire never goes out. ⁴⁵If your foot causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better to enter Life crippled than to have two feet and be thrown into Gehenna. ⁴⁷And if your eye causes you to sin, pluck it out. It would be better to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and be drawn into Gehenna, ⁴⁸where ‘the worm never dies and the fire never goes out.’

⁴⁹“Everyone will be salted with fire.

⁵⁰“Salt is good. But if Salt loses its flavor, how can you make it salty again?

“Have salt in yourselves, and live in peace with one another.”

Gehenna was the Greek name for the Valley of the Son of Hinnom surrounding Jerusalem on the West and South. During the reigns of Solomon, Ahaz and Manasseh, children were sacrificed to the god, Molech, causing the place to be referred to as “The Valley of Slaughter.” It was later desecrated and made into a garbage dump where the fires did indeed burn constantly. While it can be understood as a metaphor for a place of eternal punishment, it is difficult to know if that is Jesus’ intent in this passage, or if he is simply contrasting the joy of entering Life with the despair of being excluded from it.

SERMON

“Perfectly Flawed”

Pastor Dave

PRAYER HYMN

“You Are Salt for the Earth, O People”

Hymnal 181

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!

ONE: All the time!

ALL: 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

“Largo”

Antonio Vivaldi

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

“Sois la Semilla”
(You Are the Seed)

Hymnal 528

*The candles are extinguished.
God’s Spirit remains as a living flame in the hearts of God’s people.*

❖ BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“Gavotte”

William Boyce

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, September 30

9:00 am Sunday School
9:00 am Adult Spiritual Formation
10:00 am Worship
Special Music: Adult Choir & Carol Looney
12:30 pm Matu Bethel Church
12:30 pm Light Mission Pentecostal Church

Tuesday, October 2

11:00 am Staff Meeting

Wednesday, October 3

5:30 pm Worship Team
5:30 pm SOS Choir
6:15 pm Adult Bells
6:45 pm Confirmation
7:00 pm Adult Choir
7:30 pm AA

Saturday, October 6

9:00 am Bowtie Boyz
3:00 pm Light Mission Pentecostal Church
6:00 pm Matu Bethel Church

Upcoming Sundays

Sunday, October 7

9:00 am Sunday School
9:00 am Adult Spiritual Formation
10:00 am Worship: Communion
Special Music: Adult Choir &
Dr. James Thompson soloist, Music Program
Chair DMACC
12:30 pm Matu Bethel Church
12:30 pm Light Mission Pentecostal Church

Sunday, October 14

9:00 am Sunday School
9:00 am Adult Spiritual Formation
10:00 am Worship
Special Music: Adult Choir
11:15 am 7-12th Youth Group
12:30 pm Matu Bethel Church
12:30 pm Light Mission Pentecostal Church

THE FLAMINGOS ARE COMING

FAITH INTO ACTION: 7-12th Youth Group Fundraiser

This is the last week our youth will be selling insurance to protect your house from being “flamingo-ed” or to request a member's yard to be “flamingo-ed”. The migrating patters this year tell us you can expect a flock near you between October 1-21st. Thank you for your support!

“You’ve Been Flamingo-ed!” \$15—Fee to request a congregant's yard to be “flamingo-ed.”

Flamingo Removal \$10—Fee to remove flamingos from your yard since they are touchy creatures.

Flamingo Insurance \$10—Fee that guarantees protection from being “flamingo-ed.” You will be provided with a certificate at time of purchase.

Sunday School & Adult Spiritual Formation 9:00-9:45 am

Preschool to 5th grade will meet in the Sanctuary for Singing w/ Bobby & Alex from 9-9:10 am then up to the Upper Ed Wing for Bible Study Time.

* * * * *

6-12th graders will meet in the NW corner of Fellowship Hall

* * * * *

Adult Spiritual Formation (ASF) ~ 9:00-9:45am in Fellowship Hall:

Today: *Bread for the World*: Presenter: Stephen Panther

In 2018, funding for vital domestic and international anti-hunger and anti-poverty programs is again at risk of deep cuts. Bread for the World is a collective Christian voice that advocates for these programs.

Steve is a member of Zion Lutheran Church in Iowa City, who has been active in Bread for the World for 8-9 years. He is 72 and an RN who works one day a week for Reach for Your Potential in Iowa City, a non-profit that provides housing and programs for people with mental and physical disabilities.

Next Week: *Hunger Hike*: Presenter: Kathy Marean and Sandy Gahn

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY INTERFAITH ROCK THE BLOCK

A great way for new and old UUCS members to meet each other is by volunteering for the **Saturday, October 13th**, Habitat for Humanity InterFaith Rock the Block work day. You do not need to be an expert carpenter/painter/landscaper etc. You just need to have the desire of helping your fellow neighbor. Everyone is encouraged to join in the fun/fellowship of working together.

Here's the link, which will lead you to slots reserved for specific congregations and groups as well as those open to the general public:

<https://gdmhabitat.secure.force.com/volunteer/VolunteersJobListingFSC?jobId=a0G6100000FINLC>

Please email me, jerrydwoods3@gmail.com, after you've signed up online, so I have an idea as to how many volunteers UUCS is providing. Call Jerry at 515-250-5089 or Mark Siegel at 515-971-0142 if you have questions.

About one week or so prior to the event, everyone who has signed up online will receive an email with directions on where to meet, the date/time of their shift, and a link to an online safety course which is highly encouraged.

* * * * *

FAMILY PROMISE

On Sunday, Oct 14 after worship we will transform the Education Wing into overnight housing for three families, as we begin our Family Promise week (Oct 14-21). Help is still needed for setup and at various times during the week, so please check the signup board in the Narthex or online at signup.zone/uucc-fp. If you'd like to help but are not sure how, contact Jon Duvick (jduvick@gmail.com).

****You are invited: Family Promise Comfort Food Cook-Off, November 11, 2018, 5-7 PM, WDM Christian Church. Sample great food for a great cause. Tickets on sale after worship.**

* * * * *

SEASON OF CREATION~Walking Together Through Our Sacred Creation

A series of events in honor of Earth

Tuesday, October 2nd, 7:00 pm

[Immanuel United Methodist Church](#), 2900 49th St., Des Moines

Finding Hope in this Time of Environmental Crisis United Methodist Bishop Laurie Haller Laurie Haller, Resident Bishop Iowa Area of The United Methodist Church, was elected Bishop at the 2016 North Central Jurisdictional Conference. She was serving as senior pastor of First United Methodist Church in Birmingham in the Detroit Annual Conference when she was elected to the Episcopacy. She is the author of the book *Recess; Rediscovering Play and Purpose* (2015).

URBANDALE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

3530 70th Street, Urbandale, IA 50322

Phone: 515-276-0625 ▪ Fax: 515-276-2451

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
Bobby Stinnett, M.M., Organist,
Children/Youth Choirs and Handbell Director bobby.stinnett@urbucc.org
Sophiap Eng-Swanson, Office Coordinator staff@urbucc.org
Sadmire & Umihana Omerhodzic, Custodian sadmir.omerhodzic@urbucc.org
The Rev. John Chaplin
Adjunct Minister for LGBTQ Concerns & Community Outreach john.chaplin@urbucc.org

Ministry Leaders

Caregiving Ministries:

Caregivers, Homebound Rachel Siegel caregivers.1@urbucc.org
Caregivers 2 Bonita Wiley caregivers.2@urbucc.org
Prayer Circle prayer.circle@urbucc.org
Prayer Shawl Ministry prayer.shawls@urbucc.org

Leadership Team:

Moderator Gail George moderator@urbucc.org
Vice-Moderator Bob Harding vicemoderator@urbucc.org
Treasurer Jim Nervig treasurer@urbucc.org
Financial Secretary Steve Looney financial@urbucc.org
Recording Secretary Sandy Gahn uccrecorder@urbucc.org
Ad Ministry Liaison Adam Dirks ad.ministry@urbucc.org
Christian Growth Liaison Chris Jordan christian.growth@urbucc.org
Membership Team Jon Greising membership.team@urbucc.org
Small Groups Liaison Rachel Siegel small.groups@urbucc.org
Worship Team Patricia Goldberg worship.team@urbucc.org
At Large Members: Kathy Marean, Jennifer Gardner, James Schaeffer

Other Contacts:

Building & Grounds B&G.team@urbucc.org
Social Media Team Sandy Gahn social.media@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.