



**COMMUNITY CHURCH OF WALKER  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
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***“No matter who you are, or where you are, you are welcome here!”***

***CCOWUCC Update and News For The Week of:  
September 26 2022***

**Members and Friends,**

1. ***Meryle O'Connor – YOU WILL BE MISSED!*** Meryle moved from Big Falls to Walker in 1949 and began to attend Community Church. Her membership at CCOWUCC approaches ***Seventy-Two Years!*** She and Jerry were married by Rev. Mercier on February 3, 1951. Meryle has walked the streets of Walker and become friend to all for over the many years. The UCC strongly advocates that we are in covenant with one another. Let's continue our covenant with Meryle by writing and visiting. ***THANK YOU MERYLE FOR ALL YOU HAVE GIVEN US!*** ***Address for Meryle O'Connor will be as of 9/29/2022 Waterford Estates, 6288 Louisiana N. #111, Brooklyn Park, MN 55428.***
2. ***September 25<sup>th</sup>*** worship service can be viewed at [www.uccwalker.com](http://www.uccwalker.com). At the end of the service Meryle stole the show. Thanks to Celebrate (Chris Kolp, Linda and Ken Barber) who sang to our hearts and soul – not a dry eye in the place. It was a bittersweet Sunday as we bid farewell Meryle O'Connor who is being moved by family to Brooklyn Park for health and safety reasons.
3. Let us continue to hold in prayers our church, communities, nation, and world. Prayers for the people of rural Alaska who experienced a once-in-a-life-time devastating typhoon with severe rains and wind. (If you wish to provide support speak to Gay Jacobson). Prayers of thanksgiving for all who have responded with extravagant generosity.

Also, Prayers for Bev, Andrew (son of Joanne Detwiler) Bob and Jo (health concerns), Esther and Bonnie at the death of Lorraine, Darlene (under care of Hospice ***Cards are welcome***), Larry (stroke Symptoms), Pastor Michael undergoing an ablation, and the well-being of our households. Prayers for those dealing with wind, fire, flooding, and disaster this week – may they know healing and comfort.

4. Many are aware that Bev Jorland took a fall a broke her pelvis a week ago. She will be rehabbing at the Sanford Health Nielson Place, 1000 Anne St. NW. Room 219, Bemidji, Minnesota 56601 for the near future. Visitors are welcome **late afternoon, evening, or weekends.**
5. **Newsletter items to the church by Tuesday (9/27/22) morning. Send to [commchurchucc@arvig.net](mailto:commchurchucc@arvig.net). Thanks!**
6. **Birthdays**
  - 9/ 27 – Beth Alderson, 9/30 – Bob Winegar, 10/1 – Kim Puffer, 10/3 – Shelli Johnson, 10/8 – Paul Artley, 10/9 – Jo Horak, 10/11 – Bob Horak
7. **Anniversaries**
  - 10/3 – Sheila Hunter and Michael Small
8. **Neighbors In Need Offering taken on Sunday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>.** In 2022, the Neighbors in Need “BEHOLD!” offering focuses on an economic justice. With inflation impacting all of our households, we wanted to provide a way to discuss this through a faith lens. Join us by promoting this year’s NIN “Behold!” campaign at your church. As you may recall, one-third of the offering supports Council for American Indian Ministry (CAIM). Two-thirds are used by Justice and Witness Ministries to provide grants to UCC churches and organizations as well as supporting a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects.
9. **World Communion Sunday** is celebrated on Sunday – October 2. The theme for this service is **“At Last!”** as we focus on a unique text for this Sunday – **Genesis 2:18-24**<sup>1</sup>. It is a second creation story, the creation of humans drawn into relationship. Curiously, the translation below refers to Adam as “the earth creature”. After a deep sleep, the earth creature is divided into two halves, on male – the other female. I invite you to read with curiosity the below text.
 

<sup>18</sup> Then YHWH said, “It is not good for the earth creature to be alone. I will make a fitting companion for it.” <sup>19</sup> So from the soil YHWH formed all the various wild beasts and all the birds of the air, and brought them to the earth creature to be named. Whatever the earth creature called each one, that became its name. <sup>20</sup> The earth creature gave names to all the cattle, all the birds of the air, and all the wild animals.

But none of them proved to be a fitting companion, <sup>21</sup> so YHWH made the earth creature fall into a deep sleep, and while it slept, God divided the earth creature in two, then closed up the flesh from its side. <sup>22</sup> YHWH then

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<sup>1</sup> From *Priests for Equality. The Inclusive Bible* (p. 19). Sheed & Ward. Kindle Edition

*fashioned the two halves into male and female, and presented them to one another.<sup>2</sup>*

*When the male realized what had happened, <sup>23</sup> he exclaimed,*

*“This time, this is the one!*

*Bone of my bone and flesh of my flesh!*

*Now, she will be Woman, and I will be Man,*

*because we are of one flesh!”<sup>3</sup>*

<sup>24</sup> *This is why people leave their parents and become bonded to one another, and the two become one flesh.*

10. ***Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge and the Teachings of Plants*** by Robin Wall Kimmerer. Persons reading book are asked to read section called ***Planting Sweetgrass***. A study guide is available at <https://www.wcucc.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/Big-Read-Study-Guide-2021.pdf>

***Soup and Sandwich*** on Wednesday, October 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm. You are invited to participate in a Virtual/In-Person conversation about ***Braiding Sweetgrass at 6:30 pm***. To join virtually you may join Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82332498839?pwd=QnVQR0F2ZGZrMWZJejMrZGVROEZJZz09>. Meeting ID: 823 3249 8839 Passcode: 955640

11. A ***Service of Thanksgiving and Celebration*** will be held for Lorraine Henselin (mother of Esther Covert) will be held on Saturday, October 8 at 4:00 pm. Dinner will follow the service.



12. Information for bulletin needs to be at the church by Tuesday morning [commchurchucc@arvig.net](mailto:commchurchucc@arvig.net). Drop dead deadline is – 0800 on Thursday.
13. ***Fall Outside Clean-up – Saturday, October 22 – 9:00 am – 12 noon.***

14. **All Lectionary readings for this coming Sunday, October 2<sup>nd</sup> are:**

- Jeremiah 32:1–3a, 6–15 and Psalm 91:1–6, 14–16 or
- Amos 6:1a, 4–7 and Psalm 146
- 1 Timothy 6:6–19
- **Luke 16:19–31**

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<sup>2</sup> The literal translation is, “...and while the earth creature (the adâm) slept, God took one of its sides [or possibly, ribs] and closed up the flesh in its place. <sup>22</sup> Then YHWH made the part that was taken from the adâm into a woman and brought her to the adâm.” But if the earth creature is without gender before woman is created, then surely it becomes gendered when the split takes place—hence our rendering of the passage.

<sup>3</sup> Literally, “She will be called Woman (isha) because she was taken from Man (ish)...”

15. ***Though we are not using this lectionary reading for World Communion Sunday – you may be curious. Sunday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>*** the theme ***“Increase Our Faith”*** from **Luke 16:19–31**. Concerning this text I invite you to ponder the following questions.

- Identify someone who demonstrates great faith. How do you perceive their faith manifesting in their lives?
- Do you measure your faith? What are appropriate benchmarks?
- How have you demonstrated great faith? In what ways would you like to see your faith increased?
- What needs to be uprooted and replanted in your life...by faith?

### **Word for the Day**

**From [Gratefulness] Word for the Day - 09/25/2022**



(PHOTO BY SIMON WILKES)

Remember the plants, trees, animal life who all have their families, their histories too.

Talk to them, listen to them. They are alive poems.

JOY HARJO

***Prayers and Blessings – Pastor Michael***