



# ***THE GOOD NEWS!***

**Community Church of Walker  
United Church of Christ**

**P.O. Box 267**

**Hwy 371 & Tianna Drive**

**Walker, MN 56484**

**(218) 547-1093**

**[commchurchucc@arvig.net](mailto:commchurchucc@arvig.net)**

**[www.uccwalker.com](http://www.uccwalker.com)**



## **Our Mission**

**To offer a welcoming church home to all,  
where friendships grow, spiritual needs are met, community concerns  
are addressed and where “God is Still Speaking...”**

# **NOVEMBER 2022**



**In-person worship is on Sundays at 10:00am.**

**Contact Pastor Michael at 218-280-1401 or  
email [mjsmall.ucc@gmail.com](mailto:mjsmall.ucc@gmail.com) if you have questions or suggestions.**

## FROM PASTOR MICHAEL



### *It is time to VOTE!*

Tuesday, November 8<sup>th</sup> is an opportunity for citizens throughout the United States to cast their votes for a slate of elected officials from school board members to local, state, and national leadership. Some will be voting on propositions and constitutional questions. Many states, including Minnesota allow for registration through election day (11/8/2022). Absentee ballots also are available.

Most would agree that democracy is always a process that is fluid, and yes, it is fragile – depending on robust participation to be the most effective. I wish every eligible person would cast their vote – I have voted in almost every election for the past fifty-three years – sometimes I vote for the winners, more than not for the losers – but no matter the climate or the candidates, I vote. And I accept the outcome and as best able, I support the winners of those who are chosen by the majority of voters. I have never regretted the effort to vote and am proud to display the sticker ***“I Voted!”***

I am going to swim upstream in what I suggest. As you cast your ballot, I would encourage each of you to consider the far-reaching implications of your vote. Don't simply vote based on pocket-book or kitchen table issues. Don't simply cast your vote because it is good for your personal gain. Don't allow your vote to only be shaped by party affiliation, or by one ideology, or by a single issue. Yes, all the above will inform and affect our vote, but let that not be the final determination.

Our votes this year, and every year must be shaped by what is right, good, and sustainable for the seventh generation of those who are to follow us. *“The Seventh Generation Principle is based on an ancient Haudenosaunee (Iroquois) philosophy that the decisions we make today should result in a sustainable world seven generations into the future. . . The Great Law of Haudenosaunee Confederacy formed the political, ceremonial, and social fabric of the Five Nation Confederacy (later Six). The Great Law of Haudenosaunee Confederacy is also credited as being a contributing influence on the American Constitution, due to Benjamin Franklin's great respect for the Haudenosaunee system of government.”*

Perhaps another way to frame your vote is, *“Does my vote help to build up the Kin(g)dom of God? Does my vote emulate and lift up the teachings of Jesus? Does my vote create an inclusive community of the beloved? Is my vote grounded in love, forgiveness, and compassion for all of God's creation?”*

We are an impatient people. We expect our leaders to solve the problems of the day quickly. Health concerns, economic equity, worldwide oppression and poverty, climate change, hunger, shelter, issues of land, air, and sea, and wars and the rumors of war – these issues will take generations to solve. Sometimes the best we can do is lay solid foundations for future generations to build upon. The leaders we choose will be those foundational blocks as we build a democracy for all. Will those blocks stand the test of time or crumble and be washed away as sand?

It begins with our votes. Have we done the research? Does the candidate or issue lead to better decisions for the seventh generation, for the kin(g)dom of God?

No matter what . . . please take the time to vote by November 8. Thanks for your careful and intentional vote cast!

Pastor Michael

## WORSHIP MINISTRY ~ OCTOBER

### GREETERS

November 6 Sue Standeven  
November 13 Ken & Sonja Huber  
November 20 Gary & Gay Jacobson  
November 27 Bev Jorland

### LITURGISTS

November 6 Gay Jacobson  
November 13 Sonja Huber  
November 20 Chris Kolp  
November 27 Joanna Aamodt

### AUDIO

Esther Covert

### VIDEO

Gary Jacobson & Aurora Diehl

### MUSIC

Leisa Bragg



### CHOIR DIRECTOR

Joanna Aamodt

### ALTAR &

### COMMUNION PREPARATION

Jo Horak



## *Recycled Cards*

**Cards For All Occasions Are For  
Sale In The Fellowship Hall  
Christmas cards now available for  
the next 2 months!**



## CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

Church Council will not meet in November and the December meeting will be on December 13 at 7:00 pm.

*\*These minutes are pending approval at the next Council Meeting.*

## **COMMUNITY CHURCH OF WALKER COUNCIL MINUTES**

### **Church Council Meeting Minutes for September 20, 2022**

Members Present: Pastor Small, Gay J., Gary J., Ruth N., Doris J., Deb F., Sue S., Joanne D., Bonnie B., Marge K., Wendy P., Joanna A., Chris K., Esther C.

Meeting was called to order by Gay Jacobson

Pastor Small opened with prayer.

The minutes from the September Council meeting were reviewed. The following corrections were noted: Ruth Niedermann was not in attendance and her name was misspelled (sorry). The Quilts of Love work group meets on Tuesdays (not Thursdays) and finally, the Christmas Tea is being planned for Saturday 12/3.

*Joanne D moved and Jo H seconded to approve the minutes as corrected. Motion carried.*

### **WRITTEN REPORTS**

Two written reports were reviewed.

The Treasurer's report included a verbal confirmation from Deb that our bank account balances were good shape and that the bill for Wagner's Plumbing and Heating would be paid out of the Fischer Fund, per the Council's decision a year ago.

The Financial Secretary dispersed numerous pieces of mail that had been put in her box (somewhat erroneously). She was relieved they were not all her responsibility.

*Ruth N moved and Marge K seconded to approve the two written reports as submitted. Motion carried.*

### **ORAL REPORTS**

Board of Trustees report was provided by Gary Jacobson.

- The LP tank has been removed as we no longer use LP in the church.
  - The elevator is repaired and operational.
  - Ryan Pels moved all of the picnic tables and benches into the Gazebo for the winter. (Thank you Ryan!)
  - The outside work day planned for Saturday, October 22 will be canceled. The outside work was taken care of by Ryan and Sodfather.
  - Gary will be contacting LLC Concrete Co regarding the work we need done by the front entrance.
  - The Board of Trustees is looking for referrals for potential snow plow companies for this winter.
- The trustees were notified by Faith Circle that they voted to donate the money in their bank account to the church for an automatic door opener by the handicapped entrance. This offer was gratefully acknowledged.

### **WOMENS FELLOWSHIP**

Jo Horak provided the following report.

- A Holiday Tea is being planned for Saturday, December 4th starting at 4:30 pm. The theme will be "A Sugar Plum Tea." Seating will be limited to 85, in keeping with the Fire Marshall's recommendations.
- Sentence to Serve is available again to help with community projects. We hope to engage them this year with decorating the church and the Hanging of the Greens.
- Decorating in the fellowship hall will commence in mid-November.
- Quilts of Love has two completely finished quilts. An additional 20 tops are completed and being assembled and tied.

*(Continued on page 5)*



(Continued from page 4)

## SPIRITUAL LIFE

Ruth Niedermann reported that

- She and Earl cleaned out the back of the pews and restocked them with the appropriate envelopes and writing utensils.
- The Upper Room devotionals are now available in large print.

## MEMORIALS

Wendy Paul provided an account of our current memorial funds. It was noted that our funds invested through the UCC had lost about 17% since the first of the year. This is likely to reverse itself as have previous dips in the market.

## MUSIC BOARD

As reported by Joanna Aamodt.

- Joanne Pels is doing a great job of arranging special music.
- There is a gold lamp that has appeared in the music room. Wondering if it's lost...
- The music board may have a keyboard to give away.

## BENEVOLENCE BOARD

As reported by Chris Kolp

- \$515 has been received (so far) for the Neighbors-in-Need Fund.
- The remaining special collection for the year will be taken on Christmas Eve. It is the Veterans of the Cross Christmas Fund.

*Deb F moved and Marge K seconded to accept the Oral Reports as presented. Motion Carried.*

## OTHER BUSINESS

- The By-laws Review Committee (members are Doris J., Gary J., Bonnie B., and Pastor Michael) will meet November 3rd, 1 pm at the church.
- Esther and Bonnie thanked the Council and the church as a whole, for the nice funeral and reception for Lorraine Henselin. Pastor Michael provided great spiritual leadership. Everything came together nicely with all the hard work, great volunteers and kind reception by the congregation. It was greatly appreciated by Lorraine's family. They were much impressed.

## PASTORS REPORT

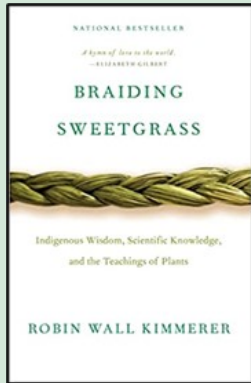
- Work is being done, with the assistance of Sabbastian, to develop a Facebook page.
  - The Christmas Eve Service will be held 12/24 at 7 pm.
  - Sunday worship on Christmas Day will be a virtual service.
  - The book study "Braiding Sweetgrass" will continue on Wednesdays with soup and sandwich at 6 pm and a hybrid zoom/in-person meeting at 6:30. Pastor will be providing the soup on 10/19.
- Pastors weekly announcements will continue in conjunction with the Churchly Happenings.

THE NEXT COUNCIL MEETING WILL BE DECEMBER 13. (No meeting in November.)

Pastor concluded the meeting with a prayer.

*Gary moved and Bonnie seconded to adjourn. Motion carried.*

Minutes respectfully submitted (from sunny Mexico) by,  
Esther Covert, Clerk



## BOOK CONVERSATION

***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, November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, and 16<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/88356090909?pwd=NUhQd0owNUxSR1R3ZEtIRFpkYmhQdz09> Meeting ID: 883 5609 0909 Passcode: 113919

## Women's Fellowship

November is a month of many changes: the change of seasons from Fall to early Winter; the change of one time to another; the change to Advent Season; the change from one location to another as our Snowbirds go South; the chance for families to get a trip in over MEA time; and other special times for church members and friends.

### HOLIDAY TEA UPDATE

Unfortunately, some changes cannot be anticipated. Women's Fellowship was excited to once again host a Holiday Tea on Saturday, December 3rd. It was to be a candlelight event for 4:30-6:00 PM. Theme this year was the Sugar Plum Tea with a guest Sugar Plum Fairy as greeter. We regret to inform members and church friends that the Tea has been cancelled.

This decision was not made lightly and has to do with health concerns, travel plans, and demands on member involvement. We hope this event will return in 2023 and be a beacon of light to our church, community, and world. Thanks to all who did early work in preparation - your efforts were appreciated! Please pass the word: the Holiday Tea is cancelled.

### QUILTS OF LOVE PROJECT

We are still meeting on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month for final work. We have 22 quilt tops completed and progress is being made on ties of quilts. These are works of art and many thanks go to Beth Alderson, Team Leader, for dedication to this work. Quilts are being given to the ARCC Emergency Shelter in Akeley to provide warmth, comfort, and courage to those who are experiencing a very difficult time in their lives. Any support you can give will be appreciated.

### NOVEMBER FELLOWSHIP MEETING

We will gather on Tuesday, November 15 at 1:00 PM in Fellowship Hall. Plans for charity work and Spring events will be discussed. We wish to encourage folks to sign up for Church Fellowship goodies after service. It is a great way to meet new people or catch up with current members. We share support and pretty good stories too. The Sign-up sheet is on the wall near the kitchen.

Help is available for all! Blessings for good health and support are given with love. See you there!

The Women's Fellowship Team

## NOVEMBER DATES TO CELEBRATE

### NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

1	Ken Huber
21	Matthew Paul Karen Pooley
22	Pat Bartness
23	Beverly Lloyd Deb Farrell
24	Wendy Paul
25	Chris Kolp
27	Joanne Detwiler



### NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

6	Bruce and Ruby Haugen
19	Matt and Wendy Paul



### ***"Advent Devotional – What's Left of the Night?"***



The first Sunday of Advent will be November 27, 2022. You are invited to use the UCC Advent Devotional 2022.

An attentive sentinel of the night can see that darkness harbors much more life and renewal than many presume. Certain plants and animals only come to life during the nocturnal hours. Seeds of insight are planted when daylight disappears. Hope blossoms when the morning star is not seen.

All of us who yearn for brighter days could benefit from more appreciation of how life is sustained, fortified, and renewed in the dark.

Once again in 2022, the Stillspeaking Writers Group and contributors offer a daily devotional to guide us through the days of Advent and Christmastide, to the celebration of Epiphany.

**Please note that 20 hard copies (one per family) have been ordered for CCOWUCC families. You also may order a \*.PDF copy for \$3.00 by going to: <https://www.thepilgrimpress.com/collections/resources-of-the-stillspeaking-writers-group/products/whats-left-of-the-night-2022-advent-christmastide-devotional>.**

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is a monthly newsletter publication of the  
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## **Pastor Michael Small**

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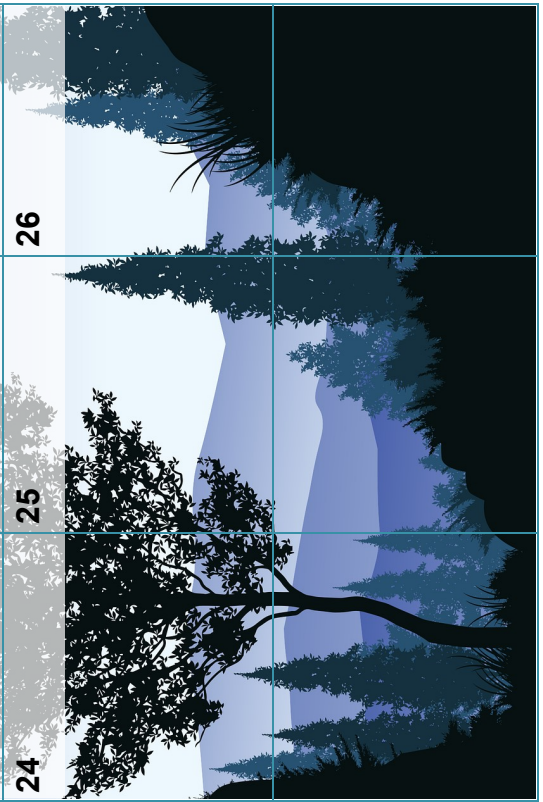
**Secretary:** Sabbastian Wilson-Webb  
**Hours:** 9:00am-2:00pm Tuesday & Thursday  
**Email:** commchurchucc@arvig.net  
**Phone:** 218-547-1093 (leave a message)

**Church Moderator:** Gay Jacobson  
**Vice-Moderator:** Bonnie Bailey  
**Clerk:** Esther Covert  
**Treasurer:** Deb Farrell  
**Financial Secretary:** Joanne Detwiler  
**Historian:** Sue Standeven  
**Board of Trustees Chair:** Esther Covert  
**Board of Benevolence Chair:** Doris Johnson  
**Board of Christian Education Chair:** TBA  
**Board of Memorials Chair:** Wendy Paul  
**Board of Music Chair:** Linda Barber  
**Board of Spiritual Life Chair:** Marge Koch  
**Women's Fellowship President:** Jo Horak  
**Minister/Church Relations Board Members:**  
Deb Farrell, Bev Jorland, Doris Johnson, Bonnie Bailey  
**Choir Director:** Joanna Aamodt  
**Custodian:** TBA

*Articles for the December 2022 edition of The Good News! newsletter  
need to be emailed by 11:00AM Tuesday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2022*



# NOVEMBER

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> 6:00pm Soup and Sandwich 6:30pm Braiding Sweetgrass Conversation Zoom and In-Person	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>6</b> 10:00am Worship Service Fellowship Time after the service	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> <i>Election Day</i> 1:00pm Quilts of Love	<b>9</b> 6:00pm Soup and Sandwich 6:30pm Braiding Sweetgrass Conversation Zoom and In-Person	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>13</b> 10:00am Worship Service Fellowship Time after the service	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> 1:00pm Women's Fellowship	<b>16</b> 6:00pm Soup and Sandwich 6:30pm Braiding Sweetgrass Conversation Zoom and In-Person	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>20</b> 10:00am Worship Service Fellowship Time after the service	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> 11:00am Newsletter Submission Deadline 1:00pm Quilts of Love	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b> <i>First Sunday of Advent</i> 10:00am Worship Service Fellowship Time after the service	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> 1:00pm Quilts of Love	<b>30</b>			



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Return Service Requested



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