



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
By Michael Small
For The Week of: November 20th, 2023

Members and Friends,



Photo Credit: Ester Marie Doysabas

WORD FOR THE DAY - FROM GRATEFUL.ORG

“When we give cheerfully and accept gratefully, everyone is blessed.”
— Maya Angelou

DAILY QUESTION
In what ways does practicing gratefulness contribute to my overall well-being?

You may subscribe to the daily “Word for the Day” by going to <https://grateful.org>.

- ATTENTION!!! –THE CHURCH BUILDING IS CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE!** *It was discovered yesterday morning that the basement drains are overflowing due to a stoppage or blockage in the sewer system. Thanks to Tim Johnson and Ryan Pels for the work done yesterday and the work to be done. When all is repaired notice will immediately be sent out.*
- The November 19th service** featured the music leadership of **Sabbastian Wilson Webb** playing the keyboard and presenting special music.



The service focused on gratitude and thanksgiving for the week to come as once again we heard the Parable of the Talents. God has given each of us more than enough – we are equipped to build up the realm of heaven on earth.

The worship service may be accessed on the church website www.uccwalker.com or by clicking the QR. code with your device.

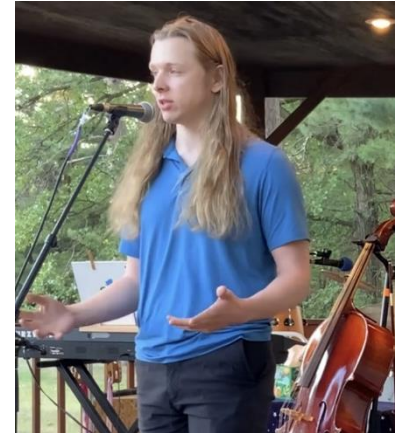


3. Pray For:

- Healing of those who are struggling with health issues – short-term, chronic, terminal
 - For Sue, for Dennis, for Nancy
- Leadership that they may walk the roads of peace and reconciliation!
- The safe return of hostages to their families and the safe return of those who are wrongfully incarcerated to their families
- Safe travels during the week of Thanksgiving
- Healthy families and conversations of blessings during this week of thanksgiving
- Reconciliation of those who are separated and broken
- Healthy communities
- Healthy relationships
- Wisdom and discernment
- Courage, love, and forgiveness

“¹⁶ Rejoice always, ¹⁷ pray constantly, ¹⁸ and give thanks for everything—for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.” (1st Thessalonians 5:16-18).

4. **Sunday November 26th Music leadership and Special Music will be provided by Sabbastian Wilson Webb.** All are invited to participate in-person and also streamed from the CCOWUCC website at www.uccwalker.com.



5. **Sunday November 26th** all readings for this Sunday:

• Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24 and Psalm 100 • Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24 and Psalm 95:1-7a • Ephesians 1:15-23 • Matthew 25:31-46

6. **Sunday November 26th** the focus text comes from **Matthew 25:31-46**

³¹ “At the appointed time the Promised One will come in glory, escorted by all the angels of heaven, and will sit upon the royal throne, ³² with all the nations assembled below. Then the Promised One will separate them from one another, as a shepherd divides the sheep from the goats. ³³ The sheep will be placed on the right hand, the goats on the left.



³⁴ “The ruler will say to those on the right, ‘Come, you blessed of my Abba God! Inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the creation of the world! ³⁵ For I was hungry and you fed me; I was thirsty and you gave me drink. I was a stranger and you welcomed me; ³⁶ naked and you clothed me. I was ill and you comforted me; in prison and you came to visit me.’ ³⁷ Then these just will ask, ‘When did we see you hungry and feed you, or see you thirsty and give you drink? ³⁸ When did

we see you as a stranger and invite you in, or clothe you in your nakedness? ³⁹ When did we see you ill or in prison and come to visit you?’ ⁴⁰ The ruler will answer them, ‘The truth is, every time you did this for the least of my sisters or brothers, you did it for me.’

⁴¹ “Then the ruler will say to those on the left, ‘Out of my sight, you accursed ones! Into that everlasting fire prepared for the Devil and the fallen angels! ⁴² I was hungry and you gave me no food; I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink. ⁴³ I was a stranger and you gave me no welcome; naked and you gave me no clothing. I was ill and in prison and you did not come to visit me.’ ⁴⁴ Then they in turn will ask, ‘When did we see you hungry or thirsty, or homeless or naked, or

ill or in prison, and not take care of you?' 45 The answer will come, 'The truth is, as often as you neglected to do this to one of the least of these, you neglected to do it to me.' 46 They will go off to eternal punishment, and the just will go off to eternal life."

7. **Focus Prayer for Sunday November 26th**: Sovereign and Eternal God, help us to see you in the least of these and lead us in the way of your kingdom. Amen.

8. **Questions to ponder concerning the focus text for Sunday November 26th 2023:**

- What is the reign of God?
- How do we participate in God's reign?
- How do you relate to the least of these (hungry, stranger, naked, sick, imprisoned)?
- How do we see and encounter Jesus in our responses to the least of these?
- What is our hope of righteousness in the reign of God for ourselves and our communities?

9. **Birthdays**

- 11/21 Matthew Paul
- 11/21 Karen Pooley
- 11/22 Pat Bartness
- 11/23 Beverly Lloyd
- 11/23 Deb Farrell



10. **Anniversaries**

- 11/19 Matt and Wendy Paul

11. **WALKER AREA FOOD SHELF IN DESPERATE NEED!**
THANKS TO THOSE WHO HAVE ALREADY GIVEN!

Bev Jorland announced in worship that the Walker Area Food Shelf ***is short of and unable to stock the shelves with BOXED BREAKFAST CEREAL. It is especially important to have cereal for children's breakfast.*** There is oatmeal.

You may drop off donations on Tuesdays at the Food Shelf, 10 a.m., or drop off cereals at the church and they will be taken to the Food Shelf. **THANKS FOR YOU DONATIONS.**



12. **Clothing Items Needed for STS!** **Sentenced to Serve** is a program of the Cass County Sherriff's Office affording low-risk men who are incarcerated in the Cass County Jail the opportunity to work in the community, for the community. STS has served CCOWUCC in assisting us with moving tables and other items in the church for Rummage Sales and other events. ***These men are in need of winter clothes – Gloves, Hats, Boots, Socks, Winter Underwear and Jackets. Sizes for the men are predominately 1 X and 2 X, though all sizes are welcome. Donations may be left in the box at the church. THANK YOU!***

13. **Church Council will meet** on ***Tuesday, December 19th*** at 6:00 pm. This meeting will be ***in-person and virtual via zoom.*** Zoom access.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89680314539?pwd=QTIUQ0dKR21JQ3JUMHNzZnRkZFF5UT09>

Meeting ID: 896 8031 4539, Passcode: 858735

14. **Information for bulletin** needs to be at the church by Tuesday morning
commchurchucc@arvig.net.

15. **Book Conversation – In-Person and Zoom - American Idolatry – How Christian Nationalism Betrays The Gospel and Threatens The Church By Andrew L. Whitehead**

Wednesday, December 6th you are invited to participate in the book conversation of **American Idolatry**. We focus on chapter 8 – **Remaking American Christianity!**

Zoom Access

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86063540404?pwd=NTBZcDhYMnRJQ1Q5UnhiYVpqM0k3QT09>,

Meeting ID: 860 6354 0404, Passcode: 481678

16. **FUTURE DATES TO BE AWARE OF AND PUT ON YOUR CALENDAR**



- **Friday – December 1st** at 10:00 a.m. – Hanging of the Greens
- **Sunday – December 3rd** first Sunday of Advent
- **Sunday – December 3rd** – Potluck after church
- **Friday – December 8th** at 7:00 p.m. – Christmas Concert
- **Sunday – December 24th** morning worship replaced by stream of Christmas Concert, Christmas Eve Service at 5:00 p.m.
- **Sunday – December 31st** - Lessons and Carols for

Peace and Justice, Christmas Carols, and prophetic voices and words

17. **A Reminder!!!** – current bulletins, Churchly Happenings, and **Good News, Good News** - our monthly newsletter, and the **Weekly Update** may be found on the church website – www.uccwalker.com

18. **St. Mark's WELS meets at CCOWUCC** serving as a "Worship Station". They will continue to meet on the second and fourth Monday of each month between 6:30 – 8:30 pm.

19. Addresses – You are invited to be in touch.

Meryle O'Connor
Waterford Estates
6288 Louisiana N. #111
Brooklyn Park, MN 55428

Sue and Duane Grage
309 Birch Court
Park Rapids MN 56470

Bruce Haugen
P.O. Box 546
Walker MN 56484

Sue Standeven
203 Ross Pl. N. #105
Walker MN 56484

Betty Fisher
4222 Larch Street NE
Bemidji MN 56601

Nancy Jacobson
P.O. Box 521
Walker MN 56484

Alison Koch
1803 South Court Street
Fergus Falls MN 56537

Beth Alderson
8058 Onigum Road NW
Walker MN 56484

Kevin Wedel
107 Highland Ave. W.
Apartment 102
Walker MN 56484

Democracy works best if we speak with one another. Whatever your opinion, I encourage each of you to be in contact with your representatives. Communicating is an on-going and two-way process of sharing gratitude and wisdom.

Below is listed state and national elected leadership for the Walker Area.

If you do not reside in the Walker area, go to <https://www.gis.lcc.mn.gov/iMaps/districts/> to obtain information on the elected state leadership for your location.

Senator Steve Green (R) (Dis.02)
95 University Avenue W.
Minnesota Senate Bldg., # 2319
St. Paul, MN 55155
651-297-8063

E-mail:
sen.steve.green@senate.mn
<https://www.house.mn.gov/members/profile/15458>

Rep. Matt Bliss (R) District: 02B
311 State Office Building
St. Paul, MN 55155
651-296-5516
Toll Free: 877-838-5537
E-mail:
rep.matt.bliss@house.mn.gov
<https://www.house.mn.gov/members/profile/15458>

Office of Governor Tim Walz
130 State Capitol
75 Rev Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
St. Paul, MN 55155
<https://mn.gov/governor/connect/contact-us/contact-form.jsp>

Rep. Pete Stauber (R) U.S. House # 8
145 Cannon HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: (202) 225-6211
<https://stauber.house.gov/>

Senator Amy Klobuchar (DFL) MN
425 Dirksen Senate Building
Washington, DC 20510
phone: 202-224-3244
fax: 202-228-2186

<https://www.klobuchar.senate.gov/public/>

Senator Tina Smith (DFL) U.S. MN
720 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
Phone: (202) 224-5641
<https://www.smith.senate.gov/>

Prayers and Blessings – Pastor Michael