



# 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!” “No matter who you are, or where you are, you are welcome here!”*



## **CCOWUCC Update and News** **By Michael Small**

**For The Week of: September 30, 2024**

### **WORD FOR THE DAY** **- FROM GRATEFUL.ORG**

*“The kind of beauty I want most is the hard-to-get kind that comes from within.” — Ruby Dee*

#### **DAILY QUESTION**

*When I am facing something difficult, what practices or tools give me strength?*

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

- ❖ **Nineteenth Sunday After Pentecost – September 29<sup>th</sup>** – Jesus says - <sup>49</sup> “Everyone will be salted with fire. <sup>50</sup> “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.” As a mineral – salt penetrates, it enhances the flavor of foods, makes it more delightful! Does that salt penetrate you and me? Are we a delight to others. With our saltiness are we able to love, heal, building the realm of God in where we stand? Become salty! The worship service may be viewed on the church website [www.walkerucc.com](http://www.walkerucc.com) or by clicking on the QR Code or going to <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H9gkB2qFbhs>.

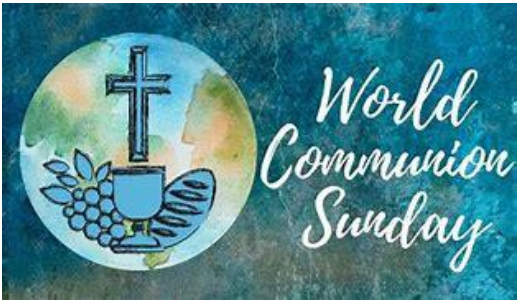


- ❖ **Prayers from United Church of Christ:** – “Dear God, Please help us to understand that ‘thoughts and prayers’ aren’t enough! Scripture tells us that faith without works is dead. It’s time to act and respond in the authority that you’ve given us. Help those in leadership understand it takes intentionality and action to change our society. May it be so. Amen.” -



Charles Jefferson, Cleveland, OH. Read other prayers by going to [www.ucc.org](http://www.ucc.org).

❖ October 6<sup>th</sup> 2024 Worship Information – Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost



- **World Communion Sunday**
- **Theme: Hardness of Heart**
- **All readings for this Sunday:**
  - Job 1:1, 2:1-10 and Psalm 26 OR Genesis 2:18-24 and Psalm 8 • Hebrews 1:1-4, 2:5-12 • Mark 10:2-16

- **Focus Prayer:** Loving God, soften our hearts toward one another, creation, and ourselves. Amen.
- **Focus Reading: Mark 10:1-16** *First Nations Version: An Indigenous Translation of the New Testament* (pp. 82-83). Wildman, Terry M. InterVarsity Press. Kindle Edition.
  - <sup>1</sup> Creator Sets Free (*Jesus*) then left that place and walked to the territory of the Land of Promise (*Judea*) beyond the river Flowing Down (*Jordan*). There, as he usually did, he began to teach the crowds that had once again gathered around him.

### TESTED ABOUT DIVORCE

<sup>2</sup> Like hungry wolves the Separated Ones (*Pharisees*) came to test and accuse him.

“Does our tribal law permit a man to send his wife away?” they asked.

<sup>3</sup> “What did the lawgiver Drawn from the Water (*Moses*) instruct the people about this?” he replied.

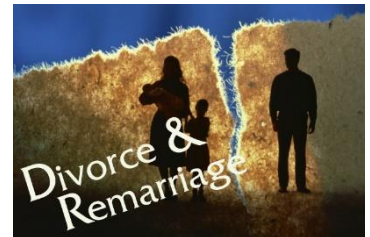
<sup>4</sup> “He permitted a man to send her away by giving her divorce papers,” they answered back.

<sup>5</sup> “It is because of your hard hearts that he permitted this,” he said to them. <sup>6</sup> “But this was not always so, for from the beginning of creation ‘he made them to be male and female.’ <sup>7</sup> ‘This is why a man will leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, <sup>8</sup> and together they make one flesh’ —no longer two—but the two braided together as one.

<sup>9</sup> So no human being should tear apart what the Maker of Life has joined together.”

<sup>10</sup> Later, back in the house, his followers asked him some more questions about this.

<sup>11</sup> He then said to them, “Whoever sends his wife away, without properly divorcing her, and marries another is guilty of being unfaithful to his first wife. <sup>12</sup> If she then, after being sent away, marries another man, then she is also guilty of being unfaithful.”



*In those days men would sometimes send their wives away for any reason without giving them divorce papers, leaving them destitute and unable to properly remarry.*

### LITTLE CHILDREN AND THE GOOD ROAD



<sup>13</sup> The people were bringing their little children to Creator Sets Free (*Jesus*) so he would lay his hands on them and bless them, but his followers spoke harsh words to the ones bringing them.

<sup>14</sup> When Creator Sets Free (*Jesus*) saw what his followers were doing, it made him angry, so he said to them, “Let the little children come to me! Do not turn them away. Creator’s good road belongs to the ones who are like these children. <sup>15</sup> I speak from my heart, the only way onto Creator’s good road is to become as trusting as a little child.”

<sup>16</sup> He then took the children into his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

- **Focus Questions:**
  - What are the symptoms of a hardened heart?
  - What causes a hardening of the heart?
  - How has your heart been softened? Describe that experience.
  - In what ways does the church need to soften our collective heart?
  - In what ways does the word need to soften our collective heart?
- **Special Music: Chancel Choir – Liturgist: Sonja Huber – Greeter:**

*Bell Practice*  
*Wednesday*  
*October 2<sup>ND</sup>*  
*6:30 – 7:30 p.m.*



❖ **NEIGHBORS IN NEED OFFERING TAKEN SUNDAY OCTOBER 13<sup>TH</sup>**



**Behold!** With your assistance, we together can help our Neighbors in Need. Please give generously. And remember, contributions to Neighbors in Need can be made online at anytime:

[ucc.org/nin](http://ucc.org/nin)



*Baked Potato Bar*  
*Sunday*  
*October 13, 2024*  
*Proceeds to School Supplies*

*All-Church Meeting With*  
*The Rev. Cindy Mueller*  
*Associate Conference Minister*  
*Minnesota Conference UCC*  
*Minister for Churches in Transition*  
*Sunday, October 13<sup>th</sup> - Following Potato Bar*



*Cindy will help us to begin the process of re-imagination - what and who is God calling us to be? This will be an ongoing process over the next year as we listen to one another and the Spirit, speak, dream, and imagine. It is written "In the days to come—it is our God who speaks—I will pour out my Spirit on all humankind. Your daughters and sons will prophesy, your young people will see visions, and your elders will dream dreams." (Acts 2:17) **May it be so!***



**Good News Coffee House**

**Grant Raddatz**

**Sunday October 20<sup>th</sup>**

**6:00 - 7:00 p.m.**

**All Donations to Special Olympics**

**Sponsored by Music Board and Women's Fellowship**



❖ **OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS**

- 10/3 Shelli Johnson
- 10/8 Paul Artley
- 10/25 Emily Paul
- 10/26 Lori Koch

❖ **OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES**

- 10/3 Rev. Michael Small and Sheila Hunter
- 10/4 Kris and Sarah Koch
- 10/17 Kam and Lori Koch
- 10/29 Larry and Doris Johnson

❖ **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](http://www.uccwalker.com)

❖ **Guest Preachers** - While Pastor Michael and Sheila travel (October 15<sup>th</sup> - 29<sup>th</sup>) south for a wedding Sheila is officiating in Sandersville GA, and then some time with family in Destin, Florida, Community Church of Walker will receive the "Good News" from some very good friends.

- **October 20 - Rev. Dan Batson**
- **October 27 - Sue Grage**



❖ **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.

❖ Addresses – You are invited to be in touch.

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

Betty Fisher  
4222 Larch Street NE  
Bemidji MN 56601

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

Alison Koch  
1803 South Court Street  
Fergus Falls MN 56537

❖ **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>

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>

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/>

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>

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

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***