

First United Monthly Newsletter

OCTOBER 2017

October is probably best known for Halloween (10/31), but we bet you didn't know it's also **Squirrel Awareness Month**, **Learn to Bowl Month**, and of course, **National Toilet Tank Repair Month**. Here are a few more important dates for you to keep in mind:



Agape Dinner
(formerly "Simple Supper")
Wednesday, 10/5, 5:45pm



QPR Training Session
Wednesday, 10/5, 6:30pm



Pastor Appreciation Day
Sunday, 10/8



**Men's Club 61st Annual
Fruitcake Bake Kickoff**
Monday, 10/16, 5:45pm



Family Halloween Party
Wednesday, 10/18, 5:45pm



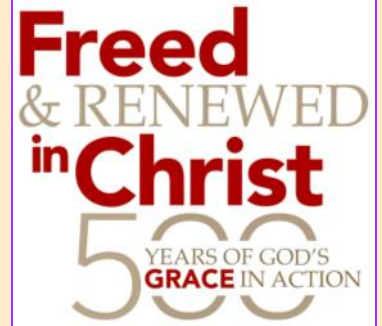
**Celebration Dinner &
Reformation Panel Discussion**
Sunday, 10/29, 6pm

Remember, you can always find the most up-to-date church event information in our **"Weekly Newsletter"** available in your Sunday bulletin, in the Friday Weekend Preview emails, and on our website at www.firstunitedpc.org. You can also find our official church calendar of events on the website. Don't miss a thing!

The Reformation is Happening at First United!

by Rev. Luke Farwell

This October we are celebrating the **500th Anniversary of the Reformation!** We remember that momentous and history-changing act of Martin Luther when he nailed his 95 Theses to a church door in Wittenberg, Germany, and how it forever changed our Western civilization.



This month, we invite you to share in our ACE (Adult Christian Education) classes and our Worship services focusing on the great themes of the Reformation which include **Grace Alone, Faith Alone, Christ Alone, Scripture Alone**, and **Glory to God Alone**. During these five weeks, you'll discover why the Reformation continues to be important to the larger Church and how it still shapes the way we understand our faith.

We also hope you'll join us on **Sunday, October 29** as we celebrate First United's calling to be a voice within our community that furthers the best qualities of the Reformation. At **6pm** we'll share our **Pledge Campaign Celebration Dinner** followed at 7pm by a **21st Century Reformation Panel Discussion** featuring guest speakers from St. Norbert College and from our Winnebago Presbytery.

If you would like to learn more about any of these plans, please email Pastor Luke at luke@firstunitedpc.org or call 920-336-1446.



As you've probably heard, our traditional Simple Suppers are being updated and renamed **Agape Dinners**, and you're invited to our first one on **Wednesday, Oct. 4, at 5:45pm** in the Family Life Center! Agape means

"selfless love," and this new format will allow us all to share our love by donating food items and/or our time for each monthly meal. A donation of \$3 per adult or \$1 per child will continue as our request to help cover expenses. For more details, contact **Amy Cassidy (336-1994)** from our new Agape Planning Team.

That same night at **6:30pm**, everyone's encouraged to stick around to take part in a special **QPR Training session**.



QPR stands for "Question, Persuade, and Refer." Those are three steps anyone can learn to help prevent suicide. The QPR mission is to reduce suicidal behaviors and to save lives by providing innovative, practical, and proven suicide prevention training. Come for our Agape Dinner, then stay for this important learning opportunity.



Our 4th annual **Family Halloween Party** is set for **Wednesday, October 18, at 5:45pm**.

Families with kids ages pre-K through 5th grade can enjoy dinner, games, and a devotion. Costumes are optional, but encouraged (nothing gory or violent please). Younger and older siblings are also welcome to join the fun. The cost will be \$3 per person with a maximum of \$10 per family. To help with the event planning, please RSVP to **Meggan Farwell** at dce@firstunitedpc.org.

Did you know our church offers **three forms of electronic giving?**

- 1) Automatic bank withdrawal
- 2) Online computer giving
- 3) Smart phone "GivingPlus" app



For more details, contact **Sue Planert**, our church treasurer, at treasurer@firstunitedpc.org.

Our Story

Monthly Financial Update
(as of August 31, 2017)



"For where your treasure is there your heart will also be." **Matthew 6:21**

	Year-to-Date Actual	Year-to-Date Budget
Operating Fund		
Income	\$214,100	\$216,300
Expenses	\$205,700	\$210,500
Building Fund		
Income	\$44,300	\$39,000

Special Upcoming Dates:

Deacons Fund Offering - October 1
Peace & Global Witness Offering - Oct. 1
2018 Pledge Sunday - November 5



It's time to begin thinking about how you can serve God and our church in 2018. You'll find out more over the coming weeks. Mark your calendar for our **Celebration Dinner on Sunday, October 29**, beginning at **6pm**.

Session Report

by Dawn Picard, Clerk

Our **Session** enjoyed an uncharacteristically short meeting on **September 18**. The main business was to accept the recommendation of the Endowment Committee and our financial consultants to



sell some investments and buy other higher-producing stocks. The overall financial outlook for the church is solid, and the Pledge Campaign Committee is ready to introduce some possible new programming contingent on an increase in giving for the next year. Pastor Luke thanked everyone for their support during his sermon series about the church and suicide. He also informed the group that he will be away from the pulpit on October 15, and that the Rev. Paul Jensen will preach that Sunday.

N.E.W. Community Shelter Update...

On **Tuesday, September 19** our team served 209 meals at the shelter. The meal consisting of spaghetti with meat sauce, salad, fruit, and garlic bread was prepared by our team of Bruce Kilmer, Dennis Hibray, Joe Williams, Lee Richardson, and Mike Kettner. Cakes and brownies were provided by Diane Betz, Debbie Cordova, Sue Renier, Vern Pahl, Cindi Barnett, Mike Kettner, and Rita Kilmer.



Dinner was served by Ian and Julie Mackey, Pat Schock, Kendra and Violet Smale, Mike Kettner, Bruce Kilmer, Dennis Hibray, and Cindi Barnett. In addition, Lee Richardson and Lois Pelishek delivered meals to Freedom House.



Our next date at the shelter will be **October 17** from 5pm to 6:15pm. If you'd like to donate a cake, sign up in the Family Life Center or contact **Diane Betz** at 336-5054. If you would like to help at the shelter, please contact **Cindi Barnett** at 737-5376 or cindi.barnett@snc.edu.



JOSHUA Update...

Anyone hungry for pizza? Our church is a member of the JOSHUA organization. You can help support JOSHUA on **Tuesday,**

October 10, by ordering a pizza from **Happy Joe's** (1675 East Mason Street) anytime **between 10:30am and 9pm**. You can dine in or order carryout. Either way a percentage of the proceeds from Happy Joe's sales that day will go to support the important work of JOSHUA. To be sure they know you're ordering to help JOSHUA, please get a blue flyer from Anneliese Waggoner. If you order online, just mention JOSHUA in the comments box when you email the order. Thanks for your support, and enjoy your pizza!

Produce from our **Judy Allan Memorial Garden** has topped **440 pounds** so far! Your help is still needed to finish the harvesting and wrap up an amazing season during October. Thanks!



The **Men's Club 61st Annual Fruitcake Bake** will kick off another tasty holiday fundraiser on **Monday, Oct. 16** with a chili dinner at

5:45pm. They'll also assemble all the dry ingredients and assign shifts for the coming weeks of baking and wrapping. Everyone's invited to join in! Contact **Bruce Kilmer** at 336-6447 or bnkilmer@gmail.com, **Joe Williams** at 337-0817 or tarheel6@sbcglobal.net, **Paul Weiss** at 530-6727 or epaulweiss@gmail.com, or **Dennis Hibray** at 336-0361 or dnx0361@gmail.com.

Presbyterian Women Calendar



Our Presbyterian Women's group is a community of women who are hardworking, faithful, curious, welcoming, prayerful, creative, and giving. They are YOU! Why not join us for some of our group opportunities and activities?

- 10/5 - **P.W.C.T. @ 9am (Room 11)**
& **Mission Sewing @ 9:30am**
(Koinonia Lounge)
- 10/12 - **Talbot Circle @ 11:30am (K Lounge)**
- 10/18 - **Esther Circle Bible Study @ 9:30am**
(Koinonia Lounge)
- 10/21 - **Papercrafting (Room 11)**
- 10/24 - **4th Tues. Readers @ 1pm (Library)**



The **Presbyterian Pantry "Item of the Month"** for **October** is toilet paper. Also, did you know volunteers from our church go to the Presbyterian Pantry twice a month to help pack grocery bags for families in need? If you'd like to help, please contact Julie Mackey at 337-0890 or Susan Leiber at 337-0979.



Elder of the Month

Jamie Tyrrell

Deacons of the Month

Kathy Thorpe & Michele Griffith



- 2 - Karen Braun,
Beth Macklem, &
James Nixon
- 4 - Amy Nelson &
Jonas Wirtanen

- 7 - Bo Baxter & Seth Hau
- 8 - Dave Leiber &
Bruce Solberg
- 10 - Peggy Dorn,
Tom Paulson,
Joyce Smith, &
Jim Van Abel
- 12 - Cole Hau
- 15 - Kip Pelegrin &
Anneliese Waggoner
- 16 - Max Baumgartner
- 18 - Sue Pranke
- 20 - Charlene Everett
- 21 - John Nelson
- 23 - Dawn Picard
- 25 - Amy Bohstedt
- 27 - Bob Pointer
- 28 - John Smith
- 31 - Jack Clayton

Our History Corner...

This month we're looking back to a special Sunday in **April** of **1981** when our church celebrated **Choir Recognition Day** with a special focus on three amazing women who had combined for more than 100 years of service.

In this Press Gazette photo, Choir Director, **Rita Coffey** (now Kilmer, on left), is presenting inscribed pewter bowls to **Pete Van Sistine**, **Virginia Dennis**, and **Lucille Miracle**. Pete



(whose real name was Elaine) had sung in our choir for 30 years at that point. She was quoted as saying that she'd keep on "until they kick me out!" Next to her, is Virginia Dennis who was celebrating 36 years as a member of our choir in 1981. Virginia is also remembered as the semi-official church historian who compiled and organized church information and material for many years. Finally, Lucille Miracle (right) was recognized on that day for 35 years as church organist. Pastor Richard Anderson was quoted as saying, "Lucille is now playing on her third organ. She wears them out!" By the way, Rita has continued to be involved with our church music program for more years that any of these wonderful women pictured!

If you have photos, films, or other church memories to share, please contact Mark Young at mark@firstunitedpc.org or contact the church office. Thank you.

First United Presbyterian Church

"Changing Lives through God's Love in Christ"

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info@firstunitedpc.org

www.firstunitedpc.org

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First.United.Pres](https://facebook.com/First.United.Pres)



Sunday School
Sunday 8:30am

Worship Service
Sunday 9:45am

Coffee Fellowship
Sunday 10:45am



Office Hours

Monday - Thursday
9am - 1pm

Friday - closed



Do you have info to submit or corrections to share?

Please send your info to **Mark Young** at mark@firstunitedpc.org or to the church office at info@firstunitedpc.org. We always appreciate your input and feedback!