

Application #1 – You are part of God’s Forever Family!
Ephesians 2: 19Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God’s people and also members of his household.

Galatians 2: 20So you are no longer a slave, but God’s child; and since you are his child, God has made you also an heir.

Application #2 - Jesus is our perfect eternal ‘Kinsman Redeemer’ who brings us salvation!
“Redemption” is one of the great New Testament terms for **salvation**: “Redemption is the love story of a Kinsman who neither counted the cost nor figured up the profit and loss, but for joy paid an exorbitant price for one that He loved.” (McGee 18)

Boaz symbolizes that we have the perfect ‘Kinsman Redeemer’ in Jesus: “Boaz is the only person who is in a position to save Ruth and Naomi from a life of poverty and disgrace. Out of the goodness of his heart, he takes the actions necessary, within the ancient Hebraic code, to make them a part of his own family and elevate them to a position of respect and honor. Boaz makes a perfect foreshadow of the character of the Lord Jesus Christ as displayed in the New Testament. We are helpless in our personal struggle against sin. In kindness and compassion, Jesus did what was necessary to make us part of his own family, even though it meant he had to suffer and die to bring it about. Because of his efforts in our behalf, we can be lifted out of our shame and be given all the benefits that belong to royalty.” (Bertolini 305)

Algona First United Methodist Church



Welcome Serve Love

This Week’s Schedule

- May 17**
- Worship 5pm
- May 18**
- Worship 9am
- May 19**
- LHN 9-11:30am
 - ELO 9-2pm
 - Paper Magnolia’s 10-12noon
 - Finance Mtg. 5:30pm
- May 20**
- Homestead 9am
 - Mat Weaving 9-11:30am
 - Van Buren 10am
 - Prayer Devotions @ 12noon
 - Care Team 5pm
- May 21**
- LHN 9-11:30am
 - ELO 9-2pm
 - Block Party 5-7pm
- May 22**
- Sewing Day 9-3pm
- May 23**
- ELO 9-10am
 - Office will close @ 11:15am

Announcements



Sewing Day

May 22 from 9-3pm



Order of Worship

Welcome & Announcements

Responsive Call to Worship

Leader: We gather together in the name of Jesus Christ - members of God’s family, and brother and sisters to one another.
People: There are no outsiders here among us; no one has any special standing or bragging rights.
Leader: For we have been brought together by the redeeming love of Jesus.
People: Let’s join together in worship!

Unison Opening Prayer
Heavenly Father, we come before You asking for unity in our church. Help us to set aside differences and come together as one body in Christ. May Your love bind us together, and may we strive to maintain peace and harmony in all that we do. Let our worship be a reflection of our unity in Christ, and may our hearts be filled with love for one another as we serve You.

***Song** #545 “*The Church’s One Foundation*” Verses 1, 2, 5 (Saturday)
“*I Will Follow*” (Sunday)

New Testament Reading
Ephesians 3:14 – 4:6

Recognition of Our 2025 High School Graduates

Congregational Blessing for Our Graduates |
Leader: We are gathered together to celebrate the accomplishments of members of our community.
All: We give blessings to you for all that you have achieved and many more achievements yet to come.

Leader: One part of your life’s journey is complete. You will prepare to begin another phase that will take you to unimaginable places.

All: We give you blessings of good will and love as you journey forth into the world. We thank you for the laughter and fellowship that you have shared with us and pray that as you begin your next journey, remember the times that we all have shared with you.

We pray that God will give you strength and determination to develop new relationships that will help to strengthen and sustain your faith. We pray that you make wise decisions, always turning to God for help. God hears, God listens, God is always with you. Always keep in mind that God is around and if you turn to him, he will guide you. Remember that your church family loves you. Go in peace. Amen.

***Song** *The Faith We Sing* #2220 “*We Are God’s People*” (Saturday)
“*The Blessing*” (Sunday)

Sharing of Joys & Prayer Requests

Pastoral Prayer & the Lord’s Prayer

Offering & *Doxology

***Offertory Prayer**
O Lord, You lift us up and You have blessed us with the ministry of this church. We thank You for the rich fellowship we enjoy with each other and with You. We thank You for members who use their spiritual gifts to bless others. We give our tithes and offerings to support the ministry of this church in our community and worldwide. Amen.

***Song** #560 “*Help Us Accept Each Other*” (Sung to the tune of #278) (Saturday)
“*Goodness of God*” (Sunday)

Children’s Message

Old Testament Reading *Ruth 4:1-12*

Message “*We Are Family*”

***Response** #557 “*Blest Be the Tie That Binds*” (Saturday) *The Faith We Sing* #2220 “*We Are God’s People*” (Sunday)

***Benediction** *Romans 15:5-6*
May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Sermon Notes

“We Are Family”
God’s Love Seen in an Ancient Cultural Practice

Something new in Ruth: A “guardian-redeemer”:
Ruth 2: ˆ““The LORD bless him!” Naomi said to her daughter-in-law. “He has not stopped showing his kindness to the living and the dead.” She added, “That man is our close relative; he is one of our guardian-redeemers.”

Ruth 3: ˆ““Who are you?” he asked . . . “I am your servant Ruth,” she said. “Spread the corner of your garment over me, since you are a guardian-redeemer of our family.”

Ruth 4: ˆThen Boaz announced to the elders and all the people, “Today you are witnesses that I have bought from Naomi all the property of Elimelek, Kilion and Mahlon. ˆI have also acquired Ruth the Moabite, Mahlon’s widow, as my wife, in order to maintain the name of the dead with his property, so that his name will not disappear from among his family or from his hometown. Today you are witnesses!”

The Background:
What is a “guardian or kinsman redeemer”? The ancient Hebrew words are:
> ‘levir’ – ‘doing the part of a next of kin’
> ‘go-el’ – ‘to redeem, buy back, involves paying a price’, fundamentally means ‘to protect’

Practically, a “kinsman redeemer” was a relative who rescued a family member in trouble. The Old Testament command a kinsman redeemer to act in the following situations:
1. Buying back the land of a family member who had sold it due to poverty.
2. Purchasing the freedom of a relative who had sold himself into slavery.
3. Seeking justice for a relative who was murdered.
4. Perpetuating the family line of a male relative who died without an heir. This was done through marrying the man’s widow.
If a relative was in dire need, the kinsman redeemer was expected to use his resources to fully meet that need. God’s plan is that no one should be abandoned.