

September 2025 Flame

ALGONA FIRST UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH



Message from Pastor Russ

Are you ready for a
SPECTACULAR SEPTEMBER?

Saturday, September 6, 8 am – Men's Breakfast & Ministry Group. Join us at the Louscher Farmhouse for good food, conversation and spiritual growth.

Sunday, September 7 – Outdoor Service at the Veteran's Park Picnic Shelter. A potluck picnic will follow. Burgers, brats, hot dog and beverages will be provided. If convenient, please bring a side dish or dessert to share. In case of bad weather, we will gather at the church.

Wednesday, September 10, 5:00 – 6:30 pm – BLOCK PARTY!!! FREE picnic supper, horse rides (weather permitting), and kid's crafts. Invite a friend. This is a great time for families to sign up for the Vine and / or Confirmation! Watch sign up sheets for volunteers and desserts.

Sunday, September 14, 10:15 am – Ukraine Agricultural Mission Update. Michael McNeill will be sharing pictures and telling us about his recent agricultural education trip to the Ukraine.

Wednesday, September 17 – Midweek Ministry Kicks-off!

- 5:30 pm – Free Supper
- 6:15 – 7:00 pm – Christian Education classes for **Preschool – Grade 8**. This will also serve as **Confirmation** for students in Grades 7 & 8.
- 7:00 – 8:30 pm – **Senior High** students are invited to the Louscher's Farmhouse(2108 100th St.) for some strange games, a great supper and the kick-off.

Sunday, September 21, 10:15 am – Adult Bible study kicks-off. Join us in the Fellowship Hall for a discussion led by Pastor Russ.

Saturday – Sunday, September 27-28 – Algona First UMC Homecoming Weekend!



Algona First United
Methodist Church

HOMECOMING WEEKEND

“CELEBRATING OUR PAST, LEANING INTO OUR
FUTURE”

WE
WOULD
love
TO
SEE
YOU!



27
SEPTEMBER

NATIVITY SCENE OPEN AT THE KOSSUTH COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS. FROM 3:00–4:30PM

From 1945 to 2025, the Nativity Scene has inspired countless visitors.

WORSHIP SERVICE. @ 5PM

Our beautiful organ will be played by guest musician Barb (Harris) Burns. Greetings will be shared from Pastor clergy and spouses. Guest speaker Rev. Katie Dawson.

DESSERT FELLOWSHIP @ 6:15PM

28
SEPTEMBER

WORSHIP SERVICE @ 9:00 AM

Recognition of “50 Year Members”. Special music. Guest speaker, Rev. Katie Dawson.

BRUNCH @ 10:15AM

Egg bakes, Muffins, Fruit, Juice, Milk, Coffee. 100% of Free Will donations will go to support our local food shelf. Donations of food are welcome too!

OUR HISTORY ROOM WILL BE OPEN @ 10:30AM

Many folks don’t know about our History Room! There are lots of fascinating items and documents that shed light on the history of our congregation and community.

ARE YOU A
50
YEAR
MEMBER OF THE
METHODIST
CHURCH?

Please let Kim know if you have
become a 50 Year Member in the last
year. Thanks!

Walk to Emmaus Retreats!

Walk to Emmaus is a 72 hour retreat focused on renewing your relationship with Christ.

Location: Lakeview Methodist Health Care Center, Fairmont, Minnesota

MEN'S WALK #133 -SEPTEMBER 11 - 14, 2025

WOMEN'S WALK #134 - OCTOBER 9 - 12, 2025

Information: <https://www.mnemmaus.org/> (Minnesota Walk to Emmaus)

Questions: Pastor Russ or cld@mnemmaus.org with questions

You need a sponsor to attend Walk to Emmaus. Contact Pastor Russ and he can help you with the registration process. Full scholarships are available.

Opportunities to Get Involved & Serve:

Our congregation has lots of ways to serve and get involved. There's something for everyone's interests and time availability. Here are a few of our current needs as we prepare for the fall.

- **Technology Ministry:** For our Saturday and Sunday services, we need a few new folks to run slides. Training is available. Youth are welcome!
- **Wednesday Vine Meals.** We could use several helpers who would ideally commit to once a month. This could be as simple as filling water cups for kids to preparing a portion of a meal. It's a fun time! Talk to Lisa Louscher if you would like to help.
- **Help with Monthly Youth Service Projects:** One Wednesday evening a month, our Junior High / Confirmation Students do a service project from about 6 pm – 7 pm. We could use a small team of adults to help with transportation and getting the youth going on various tasks. This is a fun time! Parents of Confirmation students: This would be a great way to plug in. ALL responsible adults are welcome to participate, even if you don't have a child in our program. Talk to Pastor Russ if you are interested.

#BeUMC

United Women In Faith

General Meeting: September 4 @ 12 noon

Luncheon: Served by Charity Circle

Program: Leah Wilhite, "Mental Health Therapy @ AHS"

Bible Verse: Micah 6:8 "He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God."

Birthday's:

SanDee Voss-5

Pastor Russ-12

Marilyn Hoover-14

Judy Samp-16

Jeanette Heitland-22

Darlene Goodrich-24

Lakaye Schutjer- 28



United
Women
in Faith



Fall Kickoff @ Vets Park

September 7

Outdoor Service @ 10:30am

Hamburgers, hotdogs, paper products and water provided!
Bring a side to share!



Free Picnic Supper!

RAIN or SHINE!

FREE HORSE RIDES!!!!

Weather permitting!

Register for Kids Club!

Fun Night for ALL!



201 EAST NEBRASKA STREET, ALGONA IOWA

Block Party

September 10

5-6:30pm

Riding Light Ministries

Registration for Kids Club

Christian Ed

**1ST LUTHERAN & 1ST UMC
HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP
KICKOFF
SEPTEMBER 17
7PM @ THE LOUSCHER
FARMHOUSE**

2106 100TH STREET ALGONA, IOWA



If you are available to help with our Wednesday Night Kids Ministry please contact Laci Mortensen.
lacimortensen@gmail.com or call the office.

**Acolyte Training @ 6:15pm
September 17- 3rd & 4th Grade
September 24- 5th & 6th Grade**

Vine Schedule:

Meal 5:30pm

Kids Club 6:15-7pm

7th & 8th Confirmation 6:15-7pm

High School Youth Group 7-8pm

ALGONA 1ST UMC INVITES YOU TO

**TRUNK
OR TREAT**

**OCTOBER 31
5:30-7PM**



**Everyone is
welcomed!**

Call the church office to register your trunk! 515-295-7241

FREE HOTDOGS, POPCORN & DRINK

201 E. NEBRASKA ST. ALGONA IOWA

Hospitality

If you would like to host and serve treats @ Coffeetime (after Sunday morning worship)

Please sign up on the sheet in the back of church or call the office.

Food Packaging November 9

Sign Ups are available in the back of church and in the church office.

Goal is 40,000 Meals!

Algona First United Methodist Church
invites you to our

FOOD PACK EVENT!

NOVEMBER 9, 2025

THIS IS FOR ALL AGES & GROUPS!

LET'S COME TOGETHER TO FEED THE HUNGRY!

**10,000 MEALS STAYING RIGHT HERE IN
ALGONA!**



**SIGN UP FOR A
SHIFT!**

**1ST SHIFT:
12:45-2:45 PM**

**2ND SHIFT:
3-5 PM**

**CALL 295-7241
TO GET SIGNED UP!**

Finance

1st Quarter

Income-\$82,828.20
Expenses-\$77,130.29

July

Income-\$32,310.00
Expenses-\$21,299.93

YTD

Income-\$ 172,265.62
Expenses-\$170,637.89

Difference \$1,627.73

April

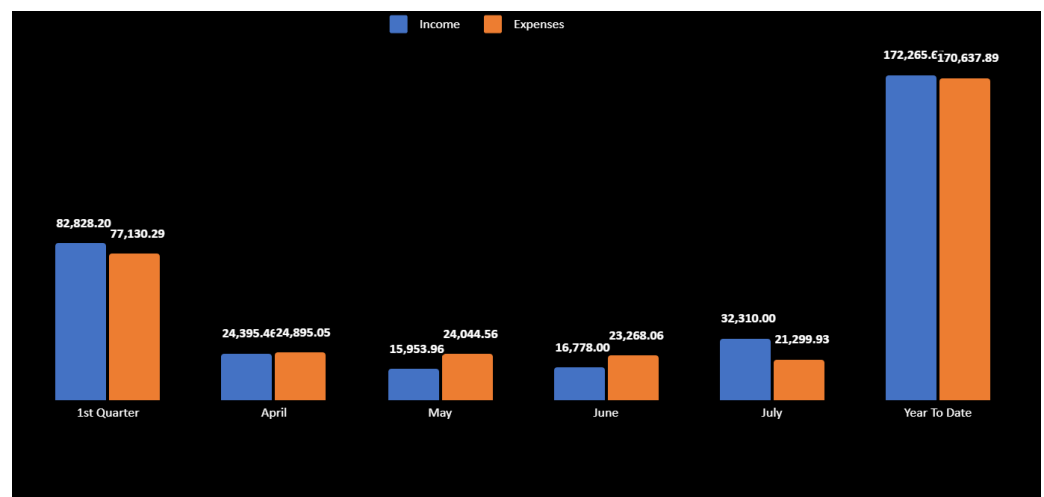
Income-\$24,395.46
Expenses-\$24,895.05

May

Income-\$15,953.96
Expenses-\$24,044.56

June

Income-\$ 16,778.00
Expenses-\$23,268.06



Message from the Finance and Stewardship Committee

The kids are back in school! Fall is around the corner, and we are saying good-bye to summer. This also means that our church is getting ready to start our Christian Education programs for the upcoming year. In a short time, the church will be busy on Wednesday nights with the Vine activities. The first night of the Vine is September 17th.

The church is so fortunate to have the ability to provide Christian Education for our youth but also provide adult educational programs as well throughout the year. These types of educational opportunities could not be provided without the financial support of our congregation throughout the year. The church is also blessed to have many individuals step up to help and lead these activities. Individuals who provide their time and talents provide a valuable asset to our church and community in this area. The Christian Education committee is still looking for more volunteers to assist at the Vine activities. If you are so moved or would be willing to help, contact a member of the Christian Education committee or call the church office.



We are doing well. To follow our financial progress we encourage you to check out the monthly financial bar graph in the Flame. The Finance and Stewardship Committee thanks our congregation for your stewardship in the past and into the future. It is the committee's hope we can continue to grow the First United Methodist Church through our time, talents, and treasure.

#BeUMC



"May God's love and blessings be with you on your special day,"

Al Koenecke 9/1

Nancy Sorenson 9/1

Alex Wilson 9/1

Louise Engstrom 9/2

David Van Gorkom 9/5

SanDee Voss 9/5

Janice Brooks 9/5

Nate Samp 9/7

Rex Chally 9/9

Tom Nugent 9/9

Janet Brandt 9/10

Aubrey Menning 9/11

Nate Walker 9/11

Marilyn Hoover 9/14

Danny LeBlanc 9/15

Judy Samp 9/16

Josh Davis 9/18

David Miller 9/18

Donald Barlett 9/20

Jeanette Heitland 9/22

Ian Barber 9/23

Darlene Goodrich 9/24

Peggy Nelson 9/24

Mike Walker 9/26

Ron Roof 9/28

LaKaye Schutjer 9/28

Mark Spear 9/28

Savannah Mortensen 9/30



"May your love for each other grow stronger
with each passing year, guided by faith and
filled with joy!"

Nate & Ivy Kitzinger 9/6

Larry & Dee Johnson 9/8

ALGONA 1 ST UMC	515-295-7241
algonaumc@gmail.com	201 E Nebraska St. Algona, Iowa 50511