



OCTOBER FLAME

Message from Pastor Russ

LESS ARGUING, MORE JESUS

Arguing seems to be our new national pastime. Whether it's talking heads on an ESPN weekday afternoon show, call in radio or (especially!) social media "Discussions", it seems like people enjoy taking verbal swipes at one another. It's almost like people like being perpetually riled up while riling up others.

FULL DISCLOSURE: As a Green Bay Packer fan, I do like any chance I can get to verbally harass Viking fans. But that's different, right?

In the Gospels, we find a significant time when a variety of people wanted to argue with Jesus. See Matthew 22:15-46; Mark 12:13-40; Luke 20:1-40. People wanted to argue with Jesus about theology, morality and government. Sounds like some familiar topics we still deal with today, doesn't it?

These aren't people coming to ask Jesus questions in order to learn. These are people asking "gotcha" questions to make Jesus look bad in the eyes of the crowds. Arguing as a bloodsport.

Jesus swats away these arguments like we brush away flies at a picnic. And then he puts our petty argumentative spirits into perspective:

Matthew 22: 34 But when the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees with his reply, they met together to question him again. 35 One of them, an expert in religious law, tried to trap him with this question: 36 "Teacher, which is the most important commandment in the law of Moses?"

37 Jesus replied, "You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind.' 38 This is the first and greatest commandment. 39 A second is equally important: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' 40 The entire law and all the demands of the prophets are based on these two commandments."

Next time you find yourself being drawn into an argument, remember Jesus.

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Russ

Announcements

Men's Breakfast, Saturday, October 4, Louscher's Farmhouse
Adult Bible Study, Sundays, 10:15 am led by Pastor Russ
Pastor Recognition Sunday - October 12.
Fall Decorating on Sunday, October 26

United Women In Faith

Executive Meeting 11:15am

General Meeting 12 noon

Luncheon: Served by Friendship Circle

Program: Polly McNeill, "Antique Road Show"

Bible Verse: Proverbs 11:24-25, "Those who give generously receive more, but those who are stingy with what is appropriate will grow needy. Generous persons will prosper; those who refresh others will themselves be refreshed."

Birthday's: Jane Marcellus 10/3, Pauline Struthers 10/4, Donna Schubert 10/16, Rose King 10/27, Linda Holmes 10/31.

Prayer Partners: October 21 @ 5:30pm

*United Women in Faith Annual Conference
will be held in our church on October 4!*



PRAYER PARTNERS

Please join us for our Prayer Partner revealing on Tuesday, October 21st, at 5:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. We will have a light supper, then reveal who has been our Prayer Partner these past six months.

We always have a fun time when we get together. After that, we will draw a new name for the next six months, until we meet again in April. Our donations, in lieu of a gift this time, will go to the Loving Hands Nursery which is housed in our church. If you are not able to join us that night, please let your Prayer Partner know who you are. If you would like to join us, let me know, or just come that evening, and maybe bring a friend!!

See you then!
Rebecca Leigh



THE UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH *Chicken & Biscuit* **LUNCHEON** NOVEMBER 13 11-1PM

\$11 FOR ADULTS \$2 FOR AGES 6 & UNDER
DINE IN-CARRY OUT-DRIVE THRU
CARDS & BROOMS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE

ALGONA 1ST UMC
201 EAST NEBRASKA STREET



Volunteer's Needed!

- We need help running slides and running the livestream. Will train. Very flexible. Contact the office if interested. 515-295-7241.
- Wednesday Night Subs for Kids Club and Youth Group. Call the office if you are interested. 515-295-7241
- Trunk or Treat - Call the office.
- Food Packaging- Call the office

Hospitality News

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.

SERVE Shelf - Thank you for all your donations. We could not provided this to our community without you!

The Vine Meal

October 1-Church Chicks , Spaghetti, Veggies,
Breadsticks
October 8-Men's Group Chicken Strips
October 15-Rose & Jean Beefburger & Chips
October 22-Tim & Judy Burgers, Hotdogs, Chips &
Beans
October 29-Kitzinger's

Kids Club

In the month of October the children in grades
Preschool-6th Grade will be been learning about the
Armor of God! The Belt of Truth, Breastplate of
Righteousness, Shoes of the Gospel of Peace, Shield of
Faith, Helmet of Salvation and the Sword of the Spirit!

3rd-6th Grade will also be learning about what it means to
be an Acolyte.

Confirmation

We will start the Alpha series. Alpha is a fast paced video
teaching series that introduces Christianity in a fresh way. Lots of
cheesy humor too. This is open to all 7th & 8th Grade students.

We hope you can join us! Parents, I encourage you to check out a
session or two so you can see what we are up to.

High School Youth Group

The Remind Group for the High School is:
2021Algona high school Methodist youth group
Code: @2021algon

October Acolyte Schedule

October 4-Paxton Vaske
October 5-Steele Hubbard
October 12- Calla Bormann
October 19- Gunner Geitzenauer
October 26- Haddie Gatton

**PLEASE JOIN
THE ALGONA
FIRST UMC
VINE REMIND**



CODE:
@algonafi

**The Vine
Announcements
Cancellations,
Postponements &
Reminders will be put
on this App.**

Christmas Program is
Wednesday, December
17 @ 6:30pm



Missions

Layette Kits

We will pack the Layette Kits on Thursday, October 16 at 9:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. The Ingathering will be on November 1. After we are done packing kits, we will start cutting out items for next year's kits in the craft room. We have the material and patterns so all you need to bring is your sewing scissors. Bring your sewing machine if you would like to start sewing them. This will be a come & go event so bring your own lunch.



Sewing Retreat

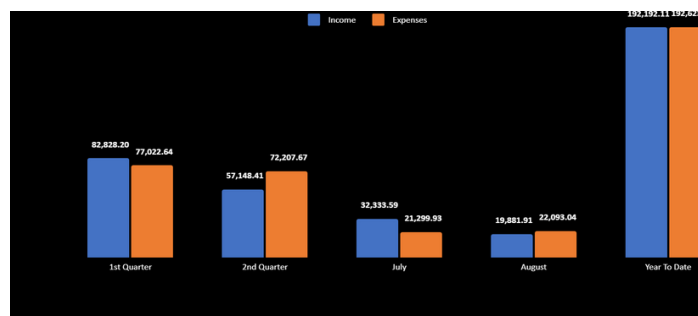
Also, Midwest Mission is hosting Sewing Retreat in Jefferson, starting Thursday November 6 at 3:00 through Saturday November 9. The goal of the event is to bring people together to learn the best way to sew our Midwest Mission items and create fellowship and community at the same time. There will be a cost to this event, so if you are interested, contact Judy Samp, 515-341-4468 for more details.

Finance	Income	Expenses
1 st Quarter	\$82,828.20	\$77,022.64
2 nd Quarter	\$57,148.41	\$72,207.67
July	\$32,333.59	\$21,299.93
August	\$19,881.91	\$22,093.04
Year to date	\$192,192.11	\$192,623.38
Difference	\$431.17	

UMC Loan as of September 2025

\$144,000.00

One Day's Interest\$29.71



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

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!**

PLEASE JOIN US FOR THIS YEAR'S

**FALL LAITY
DAY**

OCTOBER 25, 2025

WITH BISHOP BIGHAM-TSAI

Jefferson First, United Methodist Church
307 S Wilson Ave
Jefferson, IA 50129

9:00 am - 3:00 pm
Please RSVP by scanning the QR code below



GUEST SPEAKERS

BISHOP BIGHAM-TSAI | IRENE DEMARIS
MELISSA DRAKE | BETTY KIBOKO

Finance

FALL AND HOMECOMINGS EVENTS

Homecomings are a special part of fall! The University of Missouri is credited for hosting the first official homecoming event in 1911 by inviting alumni to come home for a football game. Homecoming ceremonies quickly became a part of many college campuses and the events then soon spread quickly to high schools. Homecoming events were started to help foster school spirit and reconnect with the past. They are now an annual fall event for schools throughout the country.

The First United Methodist Church just hosted our first “Homecoming” event for our church this past weekend! Reaching out to current and past members to celebrate the past, present, and future, does nothing but create a special “spirit” in what we do as members of this church. The finance committee would like to say thank you to those church members who helped organize this event and those that attended this special weekend.

However, the question always asked is, “Did you win the homecoming game?” Yes, the United Methodist Church of Algona and the congregation were winners! By putting on this event, it showed the special spirit and stewardship we have as a church.

We thank the membership for giving their time, talents, and finances to support the church. We have many ways to get involved in our church. The church encourages you to reach out to someone to get involved in the many activities our church offers. If no one has reached out to you, call the office and Kim will provide you with answers or contacts you need to know to get involved in our church activities.

Pork & Sweetcorn Supper Committee

We are looking for new couples to organize the Supper in 2027. The Kitzinger’s and Matt Bormann have agreed to do it 1 more year (2026). Please let Tom Goodrich know if you are interested.



Thank You
The Pork & Sweetcorn Supper Committee would like to extend a BIG “Thank You” to all who helped make the Pork Supper a successful event.

The supper generated approximately \$5400 which will be used for the Food Pack Event November 9!

We served:
270 people in the Fellowship Hall
249 people through the Drive Thru.



Thank You
The Pork Supper Committee

 algonaumc.com	 515-295-7241
 algonaumc@gmail.com	 201 East Nebraska St. Algona, IA 50511

Wishing you a Birthday full of peace and a year full of purpose. I pray God continues to guide your steps and open doors you never expected. In their hearts humans plan their course, but the Lord establishes their steps.” – Proverbs 16:9

Scott Hobson 10/2
Jenna Shieler 10/2
Ezra Oldenkamp 10/4
Pauline Struthers 10/4
Brian Zwiefel 10/6
Kent Barber 10/9
Randall Hutchinson- 10/12
Kim Oldenkamp 10/15
Richard Crail 10/19
Merry Simpson 10/20
Gage Gatton 10/21
Jerry Helmers 10/21

Haddie Gatton 10/23
Patrick Louscher 10/23
Levi Walker 10/23
Kathy Hansen 10/24
Shara Long 10/24
Robert Smith 10/24
Karen Chase 10/25
Rose King 10/27
Ivy Kitzinger 10/28
Rebecca Lewis 10/28
Bruce Rongved 10/30
Linda Holmes 10/31



On your anniversary, I pray God will shower blessings upon your marriage & family. Congratulations !

Terri & Jeff Mortensen-Jergenson 10/4
Phyllis & Wendell Rusch 10/5
Ben & Carrie Gatton 10/7
Ray & Nicki Roof 10/30

**Card from Adam,
Jill, Grace &
Aaron Miller**

