

Announcements

Mission of the Month
CWS Blanket \$10

Decorate the church
Sunday at 10:15am



If you want to buy a poinsettia In Honor Of or In Memory Of someone this Christmas; sign ups are in the office or in the back of the sanctuary. The Price is \$23
Orders are due December 1st!



We need hosts for the Nativity Scene!
Please take time to sign up after the worship service.
Sign Ups are in the back of the sanctuary on weekends and in the office during the week.
Thank you so much!



As the holiday season approaches, *Hospice of the Heartland* is proud to announce its annual *Lights of Life Ceremony*.

The goal of this heartfelt tradition is to raise awareness and support for the compassionate care provided by *Hospice of the Heartland* while also allowing participants to honor and remember loved ones during the holiday season
With a tax-deductible gift of \$12, a light will shine in memory or in honor of someone special. Each light symbolizes love, remembrance, and hope.
You are invited to attend a memorial service and tree-lighting ceremony at Kossuth Regional Health Center, Algona

Sunday, December 7, 2025 at 1:00pm.
TO MAKE A DONATION PLEASE CALL 515-295-4430



Algona First United Methodist Church

November 22 & 23, 2025

WELCOME SERVE LOVE

This Week’s Schedule

November 23

Worship 9am
Adult Bible Study & High School Sunday School 10:15am
Decorate for Christmas 10:15am

November 24

LHN 8:30-11:30am
ELO 9-2pm
Ad Board Meeting 6:30pm

November 25

Mat Weaving 9-11:30am
Homestead 9am
Van Buren 10am
Prayer Devotions @ 12 noon

November 26

ELO 9-2pm
NO EVENING ACTIVITIES!!!!

November 27

Thanksgiving
Church Closed

November 28

Church is Closed

Order of Worship

Welcome & Announcements

Responsive Call to Worship

Leader: Great is the Lord!
People: God has redeemed God’s people!
L: Let the heavens shout with joy!
P: Let all the people celebrate God’s awesome love!
L: Shout and sing praise to God!
P: For God has healed and restored God’s people.
L: Hallelujah!
P: Hallelujah!

Unison Opening Prayer

Lord of light and life, we come to you this day in celebration of the witness of your Son Jesus Christ. Open our hearts, our spirits, and our lives to listen to his words for us. Help us to be faithful disciples for you; for we ask this in Jesus’ Name. Amen.

***Song** #715 *“Rejoice, the Lord Is King” (Saturday)*
“How Great is Our God” & “This is Amazing Grace” (Sunday)

Old Testament Reading *Psalms 95:1–7*

Congregational Prayer

Holy Father, we come before You seeking to find our true identity in Christ. Help us to understand that we are fearfully and wonderfully made, and that our worth is found in Your love. May we find our identity in Christ, understanding that Your love and grace define us. Strengthen our hearts to reject doubt and insecurity, and fill us with confidence in our value as Your beloved children. Strengthen our hearts to embrace who we are in You, shining Your light in every aspect of our lives. Amen.

***Song** #103 *“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise” (Saturday)*
“Holy is the Lord” (Sunday)

Sharing of Joys & Prayer Requests

Pastoral Prayer & the Lord’s Prayer

Offering & *Doxology

***Offertory Prayer**
God of glory, we bring our gifts to you today with hearts full of thanksgiving, aware of all the spiritual blessings that we have in Christ. Fill us with your love. May these offerings be used to further your kingdom on earth. All praise to you, Almighty God. Amen.

***Song** #110 *“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God” (Saturday)*
“Whom Shall I Fear (God of Angel Armies)” (Sunday)

Children’s Message

New Testament Reading *Ephesians 6:10–22*

Message *“Stand Strong, Stand Together”*

***Response** *The Faith We Sing #2036 “Give Thanks”*

***Benediction** *Ephesians 6:23–24*
Peace to the brothers and sisters, and love with faith from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. Grace to all who love our Lord Jesus Christ with an undying love.

Please join the Worship Committee after the service and decorate the church for the Christmas Season. Many hands make light work! Thank you!

How to Stand Strong in Difficult Times

1st) KNOW THERE’S A BATTLE

Against spiritual forces: Ephesians 6: **10** Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. **11** Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil’s schemes. **12** For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. Revelation 12: **10** For the accuser of our brothers and sisters, who accuses them before our God day and night, has been hurled down.

Against systems of values and thinking that are opposed to God: Colossians 2: **8** See to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy, which depends on human tradition and the elemental spiritual forces of this world rather than on Christ. II Corinthians 10: **5** We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.

Against our the human tendency toward selfishness: Galatians 5: 17 For the flesh desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the flesh. They are in conflict with each other, so that you are not to do whatever you want. James 1: 13 When tempted, no one should say, “God is tempting me.” For God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does he tempt anyone; 14 but each person is tempted when they are dragged away by their own evil desire and enticed.

2nd) KNOW YOUR IDENTITY IN CHRIST

Ephesians 6: **13** Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. **14** Stand firm then, with the belt of **truth** buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of **righteousness** in place, **15** and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the **gospel of peace. 16** In addition to all this, take up the shield of **faith**, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. **17** Take the helmet of **salvation** and **the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. 18** And **pray in the Spirit** on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord’s people.

3rd) STAND FIRM, STAND TOGETHER

Stand firm: Ephesians 6: **13** Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to **stand your ground**, and after you have done everything, **to stand. 14 Stand firm** then . . . **Stand together:** Hebrews 10: **24** And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, **25** not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.