

This Week’s Schedule

November 9

Worship 9am
Food Pack Event 12:30–5pm

November 10

LHN 8:30–11:30am
ELO 9–2pm

November 11

Mat Weaving 9–11:30am
Homestead 9am
Van Buren 10am
Prayer Devotion @ 12 noon

November 12

LHN 8:30–11:30am
ELO 9–2pm
Vine Meal 5:30
Kids Club, Confirmation OCC Packing Night & Bells 6:15–7pm
Choir and High School Youth Group OCC Packing Night 7pm

November 13

LHN 8:30–11:30am
Chicken and Biscuits 11–1pm
Paper Magnolia’s 1–3pm

November 14

ELO 9–10am
Office closes @ 12 noon



The United Women in Faith
**CHICKEN
&
BISCUIT
Luncheon**
**NOVEMBER 13
11AM-1PM**
DINE IN - CARRY OUT
ADULT \$11
AGES 6 & UNDER \$2
Algona 1st UMC
201 East Nebraska Street
Cards & Brooms Available to purchase

**Tickets are available
in the church office. \$11**

**Your Partner in
Stewardship**
iumf.org


Join us for a sermon by guest preacher
November 15–16 right here @ Algona First UMC

Katharine Yarnell:
Five Generations in Your
Church

Katharine Yarnell, Executive Director of the Iowa United Methodist Foundation, has over 15 years of experience with Financial Stewardship and Estate Planning. She served a rural congregation in Kansas for 10 years, and as Field Outreach Minister of the North Central District for five years. She has her M.Div. D. Min. CFRE FCEP and AIF®

For more information, contact
Katharine:
515-974-8928 or info@iumf.org



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!



Algona First United Methodist Church

November 8 & 9, 2025

Welcome Serve Love



Packing Day!
Wednesday,
November 12
@ the Vine.

Order of Worship

Welcome & Announcements
Responsive Call to Worship

Leader: When the shouts of anger and hostility pound upon our ears ...

People: Quiet our hearts, O God, to hear your voice.

Leader: When the arrogance of the world and the carelessness of people threaten to destroy your creation ...

People: Help us be strong in our service of hope and peace.

Leader: O God, hear our voices and our prayers.

People: Be with us as we come to you.

Unison Opening Prayer

Lord God, in a universe that seems so immense it is easy to feel insignificant as we stand here today. Yet we know that we are precious in your sight – unique individuals loved and blessed in so many ways. We stand in awe of the one who has created all things and dedicate this time and all our days to your service. May You be honored through our worship this morning. Amen.

***Song #103 “Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”**

Old Testament Reading *Psalms 147:1-11*

Congregational Prayer *Hymnal #481 “The Prayer of St. Francis”*

***Song #92 “For the Beauty of the Earth” Verses 1, 4, 5, 6**

Sharing of Joys & Prayer Requests

Pastoral Prayer & the Lord’s Prayer

Offering & *Doxology

*Unison Offertory Prayer

Heavenly Father, thank you for your abundant generosity. As we give today, open our hearts to be more generous, reflecting your love. Bless these offerings to further your kingdom, and bless us as cheerful givers. Amen.

***Song #560 “Help Us Accept Each Other” (Sung to tune for Hymn #545)**

Children’s Message

New Testament Reading *Ephesians 5:21 – 6:9*

Message *“Interpreting a Difficult Passage”*

***Response** *The Faith We Sing #2175 “Together We Serve”*

*Benediction *II Corinthians 13:14*

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Sermon Notes

Dealing with a Difficult Passage *Ephesians 5:20 – 6:9*

1st) Honestly acknowledge that misinterpreted and misapplied Scriptures can do great harm.

2nd) Make room for progressive revelation. “Progressive revelation” is the doctrine that the sections of the Bible which were written later generally contain a fuller revelation of God than the earlier sections. God starts where we are, not where we should be. Consider our need for the Old Testament to prepare us for the coming of Jesus Christ. Analogy: The founding of our own nation. God speaks to us in our culture and time set.

3rd) Interpret difficult passages in light of a clear doctrinal framework: All are created in the image of God; All of us are fallen and in need of grace; Overarching ethic of love, i.e. “the Golden Rule”, kindness, gentleness; God’s consistent call for justice. Consider God’s original purposes of creation and seek the restoration of Kingdom values.

4th) Interpret difficult passages in light of their original cultural context: In the New Testament era, it was revolutionary that those in positions of authority, i.e. patriarchs, enslavers, political rulers, would be seen as having limits upon their authority. Conversely, it would be radical to see that those in culturally vulnerable situations had rights. All people are accountable to God. Authority and power must not be abused. (Our nation’s Founders recognized this by insisting on a Bill of Rights and building in checks and balances in our constitutional framework.)

5th) We welcome reason as part of interpretive process / The Wesleyan Quadrilateral: “The Bible as found in the Old and New Testaments is the foundation and standard for what we believe and practice as Wesleyans. It is the written Word of God and superior to all human authority.” Our theology is grounded in sound biblical teaching. We embrace the best interpretive practices of exegesis to arrive at sound understanding. Questions arise, however, over interpretation. Scripture alone rarely settles controverted points of doctrine or practice. When detailed exegesis among the best of biblical scholars fails to stem the tide of debate, we turn to tradition, reason and experience to clarify our understanding. They function as cooperative partners in our interpretation of the Bible, not as judges. They are ancillary sources, not usurpers of Scripture’s primacy, helping us grasp God’s word with greater clarity.” <https://www.wesleyan.org/the-wesleyan-quadrilateral>

6th) Examine carefully what the text really says:
Ephesians 5:21 – “Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.”
Every believer is called to a life of mutual submission to other believers. All believers are called to be humble, to honor others and to not take advantage of others. We might all have the same roles in society, but we all have the same worth before God

Ephesians 5: 25 – “Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her.” The Christian view of leadership precludes abuse, domination and attitudes of superiority. Christlike service and sacrificial love are the new norms.

7th) Maintain humility in the interpretive process: Things that seem really clear to you now might seem less clear as you grow and deepen your understanding of God’s Word.

Conclusion: The overarching message of the Bible is clear, but within the Bible there are many things that raise questions. We live in a time when a lot of people are re-examining what they do and don’t believe about the true message and ethic of Christianity. As Wesleyans, we welcome people who are asking hard questions. We believe faith involves mind, soul and body (actions). Let’s firmly commit to being a place where people can ask tough questions as they explore and struggle to rebuild their Christian faith.

Mission of the Month is CWS Blankets Cost \$10



Happens Sunday!
We need more
VOLUNTEERS for both Shifts!

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!**