

November  
2023

# United in Faith News

## NOVEMBER

*Why are we  
Here?  
We are to be  
God's  
hands,  
feet and  
voice  
in the  
world.*



From the desk of . . .

*Pastor Jeanine*



**Evangelical Lutheran  
Church in America**

*"I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly."-John 10:10b*

### **Abundant life.**

What does abundant life mean for you? What does abundant life mean for United in Faith? We are entering into stewardship season. This is the time where we consider how we shepherd and manage the gifts and resources of our life together. So that we can plan for the coming year and set priorities that focus our ministry.

Stewardship: "the careful and responsible management for something entrusted into one's care." I want to be honest with you. I brace my whole self for conversations that I dread. Typically, those conversations begin and end with money. The currency that is required to pay for food, shelter, mobility, and occasional moments of frivolity and joy. The currency that pays the light bill and the heat. And all too often we limit stewardship thinking to money and how scarce it is.

I understand how that happens. I really do. However, I am utterly convinced that an abundant life cannot be measured by money. It must be measured in the currencies of relationships, in community, in compassion, in justice, in health and wellness, in gracious leadership and in truth. The currencies that flow in our congregation that fill us up, that overflow and fill others up are much more life-giving to consider.

So, I ask you: how are your relationships? Are you affording them a bit of your time? Are you reaching out to check on your neighbor? Could you afford to do that a bit more? At the same time are you able to receive your neighbor as they reach out to you? How are you actively part of this community?

So, I ask you: how is your health? Physically and mentally? Are you paying attention to the signs and symptoms that indicate the wellness of your person? Are you paying attention to the signs and symptoms that indicate the wellness of our congregation? Are there things that you need? Are there ways you can offer to help us all become healthier?

At  
United in Faith,  
The Guiding  
Principles are:

+

Jesus is  
Lord and  
**Savior**

+

Reflect  
God's **Love**

+

Pray and  
**listen** for God's  
guidance

+

Continue to  
strengthen  
**faith**

+

Include **All**  
in God's  
**work**

+

Meet people  
**where they  
are**

*Continued on next page-->*

## FROM THE DESK OF PASTOR JEANINE, CONTINUED..

So, I ask you: are you expressing God's love in the world with compassion? Are you seeking justice? Are you loving kindness? How might you share your compassion and encourage your neighbor to join you in God's ministry in the world?

So, I ask you: are you open to learning new truths about our world, our congregation, our relationships, and each other? How might you increase your openness to hear God's voice, so you can more fully be God's hands and feet in the world.

And because this church also has light bulbs and other bills. I ask you: are you supporting our building and our staff with your money? As you consider where your finite financial resources are spent, are you including our shared ministry in your personal priorities? Are there specific ministries that you would like to increase through your intentional support?

How you answer any of these questions matter. On November 19<sup>th</sup>, we will offer our giving pledges for the coming year. Our contributions alone are small, but together we are mighty!

*Pastor Jeanine*



<b>Nov 4</b>	Grace Jewell
<b>Nov 5</b>	Steve Chobot
<b>Nov 11</b>	Zachary LaCour
<b>Nov 16</b>	Betty Bolaris
<b>Nov 20</b>	Lorraine Enderle
<b>Nov 24</b>	Maya Powell
<b>Nov 26</b>	Kara Escalante
<b>Nov 30</b>	Harold Edmonson

# United in Faith Lutheran Church Treasurer's Report September, 2023

Nine Months Ended  
9/30/23

Unrestricted:

Income (excluding investment activity)	\$ 67,548
Expenditures	<u>188,701</u>
Income over (under) expenditures	\$ (121,153)
Investment Income and changes in market value	<u>11,175</u>
Increase (Decrease) in Unrestricted net assets	\$ (109,978)

Educational Endowment:

Investment Income and changes in market value	\$ 10,601
Scholarships paid out	<u>(2,600)</u>
Increase (Decrease) in Educational net assets	\$ (8,001)

Harriet Kurz Endowment:

Thrivent Investment income and changes in market value	11,191
ELCA Fund A Investment income and changes in market value	<u>15,494</u>
Increase (Decrease) in Harriet Kurz Endowment net assets	<u>26,685</u>

Increase (Decrease) in Total net assets                      \$ (75,292)

Comments:

2023 income from church operations is lower than spending by \$12,128 in September and lower by \$121,153 YTD .

Income includes \$1,727 in Special Estate gifts from:  
Anita Perske - \$ 1,727 in January 2023

Investments returned a loss of (\$23,788) for September & a gain of \$37,860 YTD.  
Educational Investments returned a loss of (\$9,747) for Sept. & a gain of \$10,601 YTD.  
\$2,600 in Educational Scholarships were paid out in August, 2023

Total expenses for June are favorable to budget by \$7,496 and \$30,816 YTD due to Salary & Benefit YTD costs being lower than budget by \$10,798, the Administrative YTD costs being lower than budget by \$3,657, the YTD Building costs being lower than budget by \$6,254 & the Ministry Directors YTD costs being lower than budget by \$5,162.

# National Day of Giving, November 28<sup>th</sup>

## What's that all about?

This annual event was started in 2012 and takes place the Tuesday after the Thanksgiving holiday. It follows the shopping days now known as Black Friday, Small Business Saturday and Cyber Monday. After all that money spent shopping, the originators of Giving Tuesday were trying to encourage people to also act generously and support non-profits and other organizations, which may be running their end-of-the-year fundraising. Many of these organizations serve the disadvantaged, underserved or those needing emergency assistance.

May we suggest that this year you review your charitable giving and make an extra donation in conjunction with the Global Day of Giving? This may simply be an extra donation to United in Faith or St. Cyprian's food pantry. There are several organizations associated with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and our synod, such as Lutheran World Relief, Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services, Lutheran Disaster Response and Lutheran Social Services of Illinois. They provide assistance both within the U.S.A. and around the world and are highly rated with low overhead using a high percentage of their donations for direct support to others.

You likely are receiving donation requests from many organizations at this time of year, in anticipation of the end of the 2023 tax season. You may want to choose an organization you have supported in the past, or an organization new to you. Some may have a matching program, where a person/group/ employer pledges to match your donation. Of course, whatever you decide, giving is not just for one day! Give in thanks for the blessings in your life!



## MANY THANKS....

Many thanks from Pastor Jeanine for all your prayers, good wishes and hopes. Surgery was 100% successful and recovery is going very well.

I will be in the office regularly on Wednesday and Thursday 9:00 am until 2:00 pm. Feel free to contact me if you feel the need. I am available for calls at 847-691-1816 or emails at [pastor@initedinfaith.org](mailto:pastor@initedinfaith.org).

# Book Club News...



As we approach the holiday season read a modern fairy tale with a Christmas spin. **Comfort & Joy** by Kristin Hannah offers the story of a woman who gets a miraculous chance at happiness. Messages of hope, forgiveness and pursuing your dreams wend their way through the magic. Is it believable or not? Join the discussion **Saturday, November 18th at 3:00.p.m.**



## GIRL SCOUT HAPPENINGS AT UNITED IN FAITH

We have been meeting for over a month now, working on badges and projects. One of our Juniors finished up her Bronze Award of collecting children's books for St. Cyprian's Food Pantry. Joan Billingham, St. Cyprian's Director is also a Girl Scout and gave the Juniors and Cadettes a quick tour of the Pantry's operations. We wrapped up our Fall Product sale and the Juniors and Cadettes are starting to get plans made for going to camp in November. We also have a couple of girls involved with our Girl Scout Service Unit's Trailblazer group. Trailblazers are for girls who want to do more outdoor oriented activities. Our older girls are planning on doing some building projects in the next month or so as well. And our Service Unit (neighborhood group) will be having our Juliette Low Rally here in early November too! As always, we are collecting any small travel sized toiletries, and other hygiene products for when we put together our hygiene kits. We have room in all of our troops for more girls, Girl Scouts is open to all girls in grade levels K-12. All of our troops meet on Tuesday evenings.

*Janeen*

## WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER. 22 THANKSGIVING EVE WORSHIP (with PIE following worship)

Please join us on Wed. Nov. 22 at 7:00 pm for Thanksgiving Eve Worship.  
After worship stick around and enjoy some pie.



## ALL SAINTS SUNDAY...

Sunday, November 5 is All Saints Sunday. Please join us at 10:00 am as we celebrate those who are no longer with us, but remain in our hearts forever.

Please bring a photo or memento of your special love one to be included in our assembly of the great cloud of witnesses. We will remember them by name during worship.



## Giving Sunday Is November 19

Jesus declared, "I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly" (John 10:10). But what is "abundant life"? This November, we invite you to join us as we consider three aspects of genuine abundance. The world needs more community, more compassion, more justice and love – and with your help, United in Faith can continue to provide these vital treasures, these signs and sources of abundant life. As each one of us generously gives, we know and trust the God of abundance will make more out of our gifts than we can even imagine. More community. More compassion. More justice. More love.

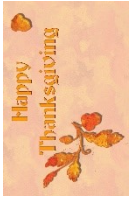
Be sure to join us on November 19 for Giving Sunday, when we'll celebrate the ways God's abundance has shaped our community. Giving statements and pledge cards have been provided (by mail or for pick up at the church), and additional pledge cards are available on the table near the sanctuary. Please bring your pledge card to worship on November 19 or mail it to the church office.



# NOVEMBER

2023



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>5</b> 9:00am Coffee Hour 10:00am Worship in person and livestreamed	<b>6</b> 9:00am Food Pantry 1:00pm Ladies Discussion Group	<b>7</b> 10:00am Golden Rebels Bingo 6:00pm Brownies/Daisy 6:45pm Girl Scouts	<b>8</b> 10:00am Golden Rebels Bingo 6:00pm Brownies/Daisy 6:45pm Girl Scouts	<b>9</b> 9:00am Food Pantry 10:00am Golden Rebels Bingo 6:45pm Girl Scouts	<b>10</b> 6:30pm AA	<b>11</b> 9:30am At-Home 1:00pm Knitting Group 4:00pm Survivors of Incest
<b>12</b> 9:00am Coffee Hour 10:00am Worship in person and livestreamed	<b>13</b> 9:00am Food Pantry 1:00pm Ladies Discussion Group	<b>14</b> 10:00am Golden Rebels Bingo 6:00pm Brownies/Daisy 6:45pm Girl Scouts	<b>15</b> 10:00am Justice Team	<b>16</b> 9:00am Food Pantry 10:00am Golden Rebels Bingo 6:45pm Girl Scouts	<b>17</b> 6:30pm AA	<b>18</b> 9:30am At-Home 1:00pm Knitting Group 3:00pm Book Club 4:00pm Survivors of Incest
<b>19</b> 9:00am Coffee Hour 10:00am Worship in person and livestreamed	<b>20</b> 9:00am Food Pantry 1:00pm Ladies Discussion Group	<b>21</b> 10:00am Golden Rebels Bingo 6:00pm Brownies/Daisy 6:45pm Girl Scouts 7:00pm Church Council	<b>22</b> 7:00 pm Thanksgiving Eve Worship	<b>23</b> 	<b>24</b> 6:30pm AA	<b>25</b> 9:30am At-Home 1:00pm Knitting Group 4:00pm Survivors of Incest
<b>26</b> 9:00am Coffee Hour 10:00am Worship in person and livestreamed	<b>27</b> 9:00am Food Pantry	<b>28</b> 10:00am Golden Rebels Bingo 6:00pm Brownies/Daisy 6:45pm Girl Scouts	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> 9:00am Food Pantry 10:00am Golden Rebels Bingo 6:45pm Girl Scouts	<b>1</b> 6:30pm AA 7:00pm Girl Scout Ser Unit 286	<b>2</b> 9:30am At-Home 10:00am NLOB Work Day 1:00pm Knitting Group 4:00pm Survivors of Incest

# Worship Schedule



## November and December

PLEASE JOIN US  
EVERY SUNDAY  
FOR WORSHIP  
AT 10:00 AM  
in person or  
livestreamed on  
Facebook: UIFLC  
or YouTube

<b>NOV 5 - ALL SAINTS</b> 9:00 Coffee Hour 10:00 In-Person Worship Service	<b>DEC 3 - Advent 1</b> 9:00 AM Coffee Hour 10:00 AM In-Person Worship
<b>NOV 12 - Pentecost 24</b> 9:00 Coffee Hour 10:00 In-Person Worship Service	<b>DEC 10 - Advent 2</b> 9:00 AM Coffee Hour 10:00 AM In-Person Worship
<b>NOV 19 - Pentecost 25 and Giving Sunday</b> 9:00 Coffee Hour 10:00 In-Person Worship Service	<b>DEC 17 - Advent 4</b> 9:00 AM Coffee Hour 10:00 AM In-Person Worship
<b>NOV 23 - THANKSGIVING EVE</b> 7:00 PM Worship & pie	<b>DEC 24 - CHRISTMAS EVE</b> TBA
	<b>DEC 25 - CHRISTMAS DAY</b> TBA
<b>NOV 26 - CHRIST THE KING</b> 9:00 Coffee Hour 10:00 In-Person Worship Service	<b>DEC 31 - Christmas 1</b> 9:00 AM Coffee Hour 10:00 AM In-Person Worship

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