

Chimes

Vol. 43 No. 11

November 28, 2023



Central United Methodist Church
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 Rev. Jihoon Lee, Senior Pastor

*But when the set time had fully come,
 God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law,
 to redeem those under the law, that we might
 receive adoption to sonship.*

Galatians 4:4-5

- Dec. 2 Myles McGee
- Dec. 3 Jacque Howard, Margaret Strasser
- Dec. 4 Wayne Hook
- Dec. 5 Larry Anderson
- Dec. 6 Frances Wells-Picken
- Dec. 10 Fleeta Ewing, Andy Clark, Shelly Wheaton, Kristi Bridges,
Randie Gist, Hope Kminek
- Dec. 14 Ruth VanEngelenhoven, Elaine Shrader
- Dec. 19 Lorraine Blom, Greg Bailey
- Dec. 21 Pat Ancell
- Dec. 22 Lyle Blom
- Dec. 23 Chris Fink
- Dec. 25 **Baby Jesus**
- Dec. 28 Mindy Beers, Megan McGee
- Dec. 29 Conner Powers
- Dec. 30 Brett Paulsen
- Dec. 31 Jennifer Shrader



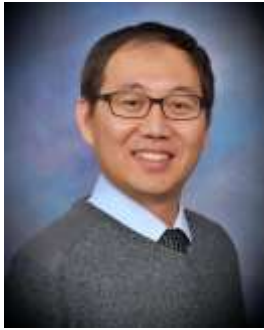
The Finance Committee Report

October 2023 income	\$ 16,970.33
October 2023 expense	\$ 19,272.29
	\$ (2,301.96)
Total yearly income	\$273,844.07
Total yearly expense	\$221,141.66
	\$ 52,702.41



ATTENDANCE

October 29	Worship Attendance – 101 (+16 FB)
November 5	Worship Attendance – 77 (+12 FB)
November 12	Worship Attendance – 78 (+11 FB)
November 19	Worship Attendance – 96 (+11 FB)
November 26	Worship Attendance – 68 (+25 FB)



A Message From Pastor Jihoon Lee

Dear Friends in Christ,

The profound truth of Jesus coming in human form is foundational to our faith. He didn't manifest as a creature like a duck or a dog, nor did He choose the form of a caterpillar or a goldfish. Instead, Jesus came in the very flesh that defines our humanity – in the form of men, women, and children. He embraced the image of God that resides within each of us, a reminder that His purpose was intimately tied to us.

Why did He come? It was an act of divine grace and love. He arrived to stand in our place, to endure suffering on our behalf, and to fulfill God's law flawlessly in our stead. His resurrection symbolizes the promise of our own redemption.

The imagery of the baby Jesus in a manger during Christmas is beautiful, yet it's essential to remember the profound reason behind His incarnation in our flesh. He came not merely to exist among us but to be our ultimate Savior. He offered His life for ours, spilled His blood for our cleansing, and suffered on the cross to absolve all sins.

Think of it like being carried along on a sled – just as someone toils to pull the sled, Christ labored for our salvation. Scripture tells us that we've been carried along by His hard work and sacrifices for us (Hebrews 4:8).

As we approach Christmas, let's reflect on the significance of Christ's coming and the ongoing work He does for our salvation. He doesn't cease His arrival; rather, He continues to reach us, not in a manger but in the symbols of the chalice and the waters of baptism.

The Word becomes flesh for us each day, resonating in the preaching, readings, and angelic hymns of our worship.

December is a big month. It's the month of "Advent" – where we remember the first coming of God the Son into our world, and long for the second coming of Jesus Christ when He returns for His church.

- **Children's Christmas Program:** On December 10th at 9:30 AM, our kids will showcase their talents in a special service.
- **Christmas Eve Candlelight Service:** Join us on Sunday, December 24th at 6:30 PM as we celebrate the birth of Christ through lessons and carols.
- **Sunday Worship on December 31st:** This service at 9:30 AM on the last day of the year will prepare us for the new year with a focus on what matters most: worshipping our God and listening to His Word.

There's much more happening, and you'll hear about it as the month unfolds. Consider inviting someone to these events; it's an opportunity for connection and encouragement.

May this season of remembrance and anticipation bring us closer to the heart of Christ's love and grace. Amen.

In Christ,

Pastor Jihoon



**Needed for Our
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service**
10 Liturgy Readers
5 Candlelighters
SIGN UP IN THE NARTHEX



UPCOMING EVENTS

Oskaloosa Christmas Parade

Join us serving Hot Chocolate and Coffee to parade goers in the Church Parking lot **PRIOR TO** the start of the Oskaloosa Christmas Parade on **Saturday, Dec. 2nd** from **4:30-6:30 pm**. Help us welcome others in the Spirit of Christmas!



Walk alongside our Float in the Christmas Parade! We are entry **#24** in the Parade and will be lined up **second to last (furthest east)** on **2nd Ave E**. Be there by **6:30 pm** so that we are ready when the **parade starts at 7:00 pm!**



Change A Child's Story

The **Book Tree** is up in the Narthex with book tags. Please take a tag(s), purchase the book, and **return it to the church by December 17th**. The books will be accompanied by a book pillow. **Do You Know How to Sew?** We are needing about **10-12** additional Pocket Pillows sewn. **Can't Sew?** We also need about **15** additional 16 x 16 pillow inserts!



In October We Raised **\$169-13** For Alzheimer's Association



Last Week We Raised **\$118-16** For Change a Child's Story

Bring Your Spare Change the Last Sunday Every Month

Christmas Day Brunch
(breakfast fare)
11:00 am - Dine In Only



Must RSVP to 641-672-2564 by Dec 18th

Help is needed preparing for our **Annual Community Christmas Brunch**. We generally serve around 100 people, many are older with no family nearby, some are newcomers to Oskaloosa. **We can use help ahead of time and day of!** If you'd like to play piano or other musical instrument on Christmas Day, we'd love to have you join us!. **May your servants heart move you to consider helping with this annual event.** A sign-up sheet is available in the narthex.

Children's Christmas Program

The Children will be presenting their Christmas Program "**Kid's Choice**" on **Sunday, December 10th** during our Worship Service.

Come and celebrate the **Joy of Christmas** through the eyes of our kids as they share all of their Christmas favorites! **Invite your Family & Friends!**



CHRISTMAS CAROLING

Sunday, December 10th

Celebrate the true Spirit of the Season by bringing the **JOY of CHRISTMAS** to homebound church members.

Time will be determined by those signed up (most likely mid-to-late afternoon)



Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

December

1 8:30- Little Creations PS	2 Christmas Parade and Hot Cocoa in Parking Lot
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3 Communion Sunday 9:00- Youth Bell Choir 9:30- Worship/KMZ 10:30- Fellowship Time Sunday School	4 8:30- Little Creations PS	5 8:30- Little Creations PS 11:00 – PEO Luncheon 7 pm- AI Anon –Library	6 8:30- Little Creations PS 6:00- Education Committee 6:30- SPRC	7 8:30- Little Creations PS	8 8:30- Little Creations PS ROTARY CHRISTMAS FOOD BASKET EVENT	9 Rotary Food Basket Distribution
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10 Kid's Choice Christmas Program 9:30- Worship/KMZ 10:30- Fellowship/ Sunday School Christmas Caroling – Time to be Determined	11 8:30- Little Creations PS 6:30- Nominating Committee	12 8:30- Little Creations PS 7 pm- AI Anon –Library	13 8:30- Little Creations PS 6:00- Finance Committee 6:30- Trustees	14 8:30- Little Creations PS 9:00 - SEIDA CHRISTMAS' GIFT GIVING – SET UP	15 8:30- Little Creations PS 9:00 – 3:30 SEIDA Christmas Gift Distribution	16
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17 Holy Baptism 9:30- Worship/KMZ 10:30- Fellowship/ Sunday School	18 8:30- Little Creations PS Last Day to RSVP for Christmas Day Brunch Call 641-672-2564	19 8:30- Little Creations PS 6:30- Worship Committee 7 pm- AI Anon –Library	20 8:30- Little Creations PS 9:30 – Preschool Christmas Program 6:00- Ad Council	21 8:30- Little Creations PS 9:30 – Preschool Christmas Program	22 NO PRESCHOOL	23
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24 CHRISTMAS EVE 9:30- Worship/KMZ 10:30- Fellowship/ NO SUNDAY SCHOOL 6:30 Christmas Eve Candlelight Service	25 CHRISTMAS DAY 11:00 Christmas Day Brunch MERRY CHRISTMAS	26 NO PRESCHOOL 7 pm- AI Anon –Library	27 NO PRESCHOOL	28 NO PRESCHOOL	29 NO PRESCHOOL	30
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31 Noisy Offering HAT SUNDAY 9:30- Worship/KMZ 10:30- Fellowship/ NO SUNDAY SCHOOL	1 
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<p>Acolyte Schedule:</p> <p>Dec 3 Lucy Canfield & Gemma Lahner Dec 10 Norah Foster & Bennett Foster Dec 17 Jackson Lahner & Nyla Canfield Dec 24 (AM) Nyla Canfield & Lucy Canfield (??) Dec 24 (Eve) Jackson Lahner & Gemma Lahner (??) Dec 31 To Be Determined</p>	<p>Please put these dates on your calendar. If you are unable to help on a Sunday you are scheduled, please ask one of your friends to fill in for you. Thanks!</p>
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