

OCTOBER Birthdays

10/7—Heather Lindgren
 10/11—Lynne Johnson
 10/14—Sandra Parker
 10/17—Kristen Fink
 10/18—Ben Adair
 10/20—Darcie Brown
 10/24—Kelli Shrader
 10/26—Angie Dawson
 10/29—Haley Rohloff, Dusty Bollinger, Phyllis Fox, Beth Kminek

Attendance Records

8/31	83
9/7	68
9/14	77
9/21	0
9/28	69

Financial Reports

August 2025 Income	\$19,680.43
August 2025 Expense	\$17,855.51
Difference	\$1,824.92
Total 2025 Yearly Income	\$173,079.10
Total 2025 Yearly Expense	\$148,975.23
Difference	\$24,103.87

CHIMES

Vol. 45 No. 10

October 1, 2025



"He will cover you with his feathers, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness will be your shield and rampart." (Psalm 91:4 NIV)



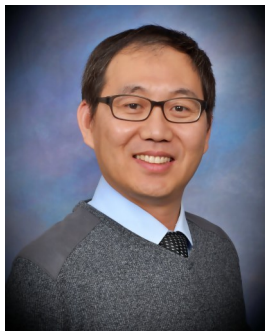
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Senior Pastor: Rev. Dr. Jihoon Lee



A Message From Pastor Jihoon Lee

Grace and peace to you in this new season,

The air has shifted. Morning breezes carry a coolness that wasn't there a few weeks ago. Trees, once clothed in summer's green, now trade their garments for gold, crimson, and amber. Fields bow heavy with grain, their heads bending low as though in prayer, waiting for harvest. Autumn has arrived.

Every harvest tells a story. In spring, a farmer scatters seed into the dark soil—not with proof in hand, but with promise in heart. The promise is unseen, but it is enough to send him out with hope. Through long days of sun and storm, through patient waiting, he trusts what he cannot see. Now, months later, the fields answer back. The promise has held. The seed has grown. The harvest confirms what was trusted in the spring. Faith works in much the same way. The writer of Hebrews reminds us that “faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see” (Hebrews 11:1). Each season of our lives brings us moments when God's promises move from unseen to confirmed—from seed to stalk, from hope to harvest. Sometimes it happens quietly, in answered prayers we almost forgot we prayed. Sometimes it happens in larger ways, when life itself bears witness to God's faithfulness across years.

This fall, our church family enters such a season of confirmation. Alongside the new start of Sunday School, we are blessed to begin a Confirmation Class with three of our young people—Jackson Lahner, Nolan Bollinger, and Nyla Canfield.

Confirmation is no small step. In the United Methodist Church, it is the moment when young people claim for themselves the promises once spoken over them at baptism. Parents and church once said, “This child belongs to Christ.” Now the young disciple says, “Yes, this faith is mine. This Savior is my Savior.” The promise is confirmed, not only by words but by choice, by heart, by life.

Over the years, I have listened to countless stories from members of all ages—elderly saints, parents raising children, faithful disciples who have walked long roads. Again and again, they speak with gratitude about their Confirmation class. Some recall the



St Paul Congregational UCC & First Christian Church (DOC) presents...

FREE LAUNDRY NIGHT

OCTOBER 16
4-7 PM

Need a Ride?
Call or Text
641-638-1203

SUDS OF LOVE
OSKALOOSA
No Strings Attached
A partnership outreach of
St. Paul Congregational UCC
and
First Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)

Do your laundry FOR FREE!!
(no strings attached!)

Laundry soap provided

Bring your laundry to
Stop & GO Laundromat at
1308 A Ave East
in Oskaloosa.

Volunteer Opportunities

- We need communion servers, if you are interested in doing this please sign on the sheet in the Narthex.
- Check the board in the Narthex for any opportunities where you can serve in the church. We welcome and appreciate all of our volunteers that are able to lend a helping hand.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- We are inviting the church family to participate in the support of our college students and any military personnel that we know. In order to do this, we are inviting EVERYONE in our church to share a card or note to these members. Notes of encouragement, what is happening in our church family, what's going on in your life, will give them sense of belonging and connection to us. There will be a list of the students so you can write a note to all of them. There will be a basket located in the Narthex, clearly marked, where cards can be dropped. These will be mailed as a group to each person. Dates have been designated for **Congregational Card Shower**.

September

November 2, 2025

December 7, 2025

February 7, 2026

March 29, 2026

April 26, 2026

- **Pastor's Absence**—Pastor Jihoon will be away at GCORR in Los Angeles, CA from October 7th—12th. We will have Rev. Bob Dean here to give the message on October 12th.
- **Trunk or Treat** is set for October 26th, there will be a meeting on October 8th at 6:30pm to go over the details. Signup sheet is in the Narthex.
- October is breast cancer awareness month, Central UMC will be participating in the campaign of hope, strength, courage sponsored by Mahaska Health Partnership. This campaign effort will bring awareness, compassion and hope to individuals and families affected by breast cancer. Mahaska Health is proud to provide life-saving screening, treatment, and support services for people close to home. Breast cancer has affected many people in our individual families, our church families, and other friends and neighbors in our community. **Sunday, October 12th will be our Breast Cancer Awareness Day**, as we will be collecting your Noisy and not so Noisy Offerings that day to be given to the Breast Cancer Awareness campaign to Mahaska Health. In addition, wear your **Pink** clothes and join us for a **Pink Coffee Time**. Be sure and notice the decal on the west door, signifying that we are supporting the Breast Cancer Awareness Campaign.

lessons that opened Scripture to them. Others remember friendships that lasted for decades. Still others describe a holy moment at the altar rail, when they felt the Spirit's presence as they whispered their first "yes" to God. These memories linger like the sweetness of a harvest gathered in. They testify that Confirmation is more than a program—it is a season that can shape a soul for a lifetime.

My prayer is that Jackson, Nolan, and Nyla will find the same. May their hearts be impressed with the goodness of God, their minds sharpened by the truth of Christ, and their spirits lifted by the presence of the Holy Spirit. May their Confirmation be not only a class completed but a faith confirmed. And may they, years from now, look back and say, "It was then that I learned to trust God's promises for myself."

But this journey is not theirs alone. Just as no harvest is gathered without the work of many hands, no faith matures without the care of a community. Teachers will guide them. Parents will encourage them. And the whole congregation is called to surround them in prayer. That is why I ask you: remember their names. Speak a blessing when you see them in the hallways. Whisper a prayer when they come to mind. Encourage them with your words, your smiles, your faithful presence in worship.

This fall, as farmers gather grain from the fields, let us gather around our young disciples. Let us confirm, with our lives and prayers, the promises of God. For just as surely as seeds grow into harvest, so the word of God will not return empty, but will accomplish what He intends (Isaiah 55:11). And in that promise, we can rest secure.

Grace and peace,
Pastor Jihoon



We need more pocket pillows! If you are needing the pattern instructions for the book pillows, please contact the church office. The pillows will need to be turned in mid November, so that they can be distributed in December.

October 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Meeting for Trunk or Treat—6:00 Choir—7pm	2	3	4
5	6	7 Pastor gone till the 13th	8 Trunk or Treat—6:30 Trustees—6:30 Choir—7pm	9	10	11
12 Noisy Offering Guest: Rev. Bob Dean	13 SPRC—6:30	14	15 Finance—6:00 AD Council—6:30 Choir—7pm	16	17	18
19	20	21	22 Worship—6:00 Choir—7pm	23	24	25
26 Trunk or Treat	27	28	29 Choir—7pm	30	31	