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

9/6	59
9/13	55
9/27	83

Financial Reports

August 2026 Income	$20,414.03
August 2026 Expense	$19,767.25
Difference	$646.78
Total 2026 Yearly Income	$167,727.12
Total 2026 Yearly Expense	$202,409.52
Difference	($34,682.40)

CHIMES

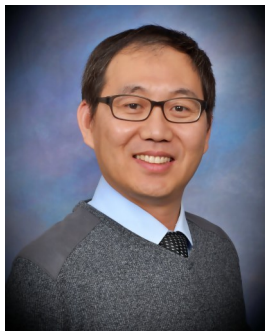
Vol. 46 No. 10

October 1, 2026



"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)

201 N Market St, Oskaloosa IA 52577
Phone: (641) 672-2564
E-mail: centralumas@gmail.com
Website: centralum.org
Senior Pastor: Rev. Dr. Jihoon Lee



A Message From Pastor Jihoon Lee

Dear Friends Moving Forward into New Seasons with God,
Late in September, Esther, Joseph, and I packed the car with his belongings and began the long drive from Iowa to New York. Joseph had accepted his first full-time job, and we were helping him move into a new apartment and, in many ways, into a new chapter of life.

When we left Iowa, summer had only recently begun to loosen its grip. The worst of the heat was gone, but much of the landscape was still green. The fields looked familiar. The trees still carried the fullness of summer.

But as we drove east, the landscape slowly began to change. The air grew cooler. The woods grew denser. The flatness of the Midwest gradually gave way to rolling hills, then mountains and valleys. And somewhere along the road, especially as we moved farther east, we began to see something we had not yet seen back home: color. A little yellow here. A patch of orange there. A few trees already turning red. Somewhere along the highway, we had driven into autumn.

At first, I simply enjoyed the change. But after a while, I realized that the landscape outside the car was not the only thing changing. I thought we were driving Joseph into a new season of his life. Somewhere along the way, I realized Esther and I were entering one too.

For years, loving our children has often meant preparing, helping, advising, driving, fixing, and sometimes worrying more than necessary. But there comes a time when love has to learn a different shape. We still care. We still help when needed. But part of loving someone who is growing into his own life is learning when to let go, step back, trust, and pray.







Volunteer Opportunities

- 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

- **Adult Sunday School** will start October 25 following church in the Blue Room. We will be discussing the book by Jay Payleitner titled "What If God Wrote Your Bucket List?". Sign up on the sheet in the Narthex by October 4 to get in the group book order. Cost is $10. Get ready for a bucket list unlike any you've seen before. The book gives 52 unexpected goals with examples and Biblical references that will make a difference today and for eternity. We will examine getting our priorities straight with the most important relationship in our lives—us and God. Please join us.

- **Trunk or Treat—**Check the sheet in the narthex to see how you could help.

- 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 11th 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 Foundation. In addition, wear your Pink clothes and join us for a Pink Coffee Time.



That is true far beyond parenting. Children grow up. Parents grow older. Work changes. Responsibilities we once carried pass to someone else, while new ones arrive at our door. Sometimes change is welcome. Sometimes it is painful. Often it is both. Life does not always ask whether we are ready before it changes seasons.

Scripture knows something about unfamiliar landscapes. Near the end of his life, Moses spoke to Joshua, who was about to lead Israel into a land he had never led them into before. Much was changing. Moses did not promise that the road ahead would be easy or familiar. Instead, he gave Joshua this promise: "The LORD himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you." — Deuteronomy 31:8
That promise was spoken to Joshua in a particular moment. But it reveals something Scripture reminds us again and again: God does not abandon his people when the landscape changes. Faith is not the assurance that the landscape will remain familiar. It is the assurance that God will remain faithful when it does not.

Perhaps October is a good month to ask a simple question: What is changing in my life right now? Maybe something is beginning. Maybe something is ending. Maybe something we have loved is simply becoming different.

We cannot keep every leaf green. We cannot hold every season in place. The deeper question is whether we can trust the God who goes before us.
We saw autumn a little early this year. Soon enough, those colors will reach Iowa too. The leaves will turn. The landscape will change. So will our lives.
But one thing will not change: we will never enter a season ahead of God.

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 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7 ED Comm.—6:00pm Worship—6:00pm Choir—7:00pm	8	9	10
11 Spec. Music— Tim Foster **Wear PINK!**	12 Columbus Day Church Offices Closed	13 SPRC—6:30pm	14 Finance—6:00pm Trustees—6:30pm Choir—7:00pm	15	16	17
18 Spec. Music—Choir	19	20	21 AD Council—6:30pm No Choir Rehearsal	22	23	24
25	26	27	28 Worship—6:00pm Choir—7:00pm	29	30	31

