



# WAKONDA NEWS

November, 2022  
Volume 66, Issue 11

Wakonda Christian Church  
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Office Hours  
10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
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### *From the pastor's desk...*

November is the time where gratitude is in the air. It seems to fall from our spirits like the lustrous leaves lilt downward. Gratitude, when truly felt, is delicious. It's become common place for people to practice daily gratitude this month.

As one leaf becomes two, the pile begins to build.

As one "thank you," lands upon the weary heart of an overworked fast-food worker, your daily barista, or usual lunch server, the gratitude seeps into our spirits, equally.

Transforming us into Thankful People.

Finishing up our annual Faith Promise Stewardship Season always leaves me steeped in gratitude. It's always so wonderful to hear the many ways Wakonda is transforming our world; sometimes simply by transforming our own hearts.

So today, when I opened the ever-growing pile of emails in my inbox, I clicked on the email from Matt Unger, CEO of DMARC. His words landed like a thud upon my beautiful pile of thanksgivings:

**"The reduction in emergency SNAP benefits coincided with inflation and tighter household budgets.** Demands on DMARC's pantry network climbed throughout the spring and summer as we witnessed nearly a 63% increase in June and an 86% increase in August - marking **the busiest August in network history, providing assistance to over 20,000 unique individuals** in that month alone! The trend has continued into the fall, as September 2022 was the busiest September of all-time. We

anticipate demand to build into the holiday season, **predicting November 2022 to be our busiest month on record**, projecting assistance to upwards of 25,000 unique individuals."

He continues:

"While we may have moved to a new building this year, it's incredible that 70 years later, even our new building sits on that same strong foundation of communities of faith like you. Our current alliance of around 200 partners coming from five world faith traditions is a special one that has brought so much support to this community and what truly makes DMARC so unique. That level of care and support for meeting the most basic of human needs has been the bedrock of this organization."

As the basic human needs of neighbors rises, we have these piles of gratitude to offer. There is are reason why gratitude is so often partnered by generosity – they are sisters in the continual care of our spirits. Wakonda has been a faithful supporter of DMARC throughout it's history, and here are the words from their leader, we are not alone in this care. 5 faith traditions, 200 partners, are each offering the support and care from our many stores of thanksgiving. Like an ever-shifting pile of leaves, it might not look sturdy, but my friends, trust the simplest act of gratitude and generosity is indeed the bedrock we have always stood upon; and we are alone. Thanks be to God.

## Board Chair Bits...

*"Continuity gives us roots; change gives us branches, letting us stretch and grow and reach new heights."* -

Pauline R. Keezer

Our church is alive and doing well! You are making things happen on this property, in this building and throughout our community. As our Stewardship co-chairs David Brown and Betty Ridout continue to show us how to **Go and Do the Same**, let us all pray for guidance in each of us as we all prepare for our **Faith Promise Sunday** this coming November 6. And, looking forward to our Elders providing a delicious meal with fellowship following the Sunday service that day.

We have many different opportunities without our church to be stewards and share what we are all blessed with. One of those opportunities is our Tuesday morning "Chit Chats". This is a group of us who just like to get together, have some coffee and maybe a treat occasionally and just have some good conversation about a variety of topics. We also help at times as needed. Today was one of those days of sharing ourselves with others. We were blessed with having our 2-year-olds from the preschool parade through with their Halloween costumes as they had a safe environment for trick or treating within the building. I don't know who was blessed more by this, the folks at chit chats who got to greet these little angels and hand them some candy, or those little angels and their teachers. The smiles and excitement on the faces of those in attendance for chit chats was priceless and those little 2-year-olds brought some much-needed smiles to some of "older kids"!

As we enter November and the upcoming holiday season let's all take time to appreciate the little things in life and to take the time to reach out to someone who may be missing a loved one this year more than ever.

Our next Board Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 16<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 PM. This meeting will primarily be focused on reviewing the proposed budgets for the next year so that we can present it to the congregation for approval at our December congregational meeting.

Blessings to each of you,

Nancy, Board Chair

## November Worship

**November 6:** *Blessed are We*,  
Luke 6:20-31

### Faith Promise Stewardship Sunday

**Nov. 13:** *The Song of Our Hearts*  
Psalm 98

**Nov. 20:** *A Place is Being Prepared*  
Luke 1:68-79

**Nov 27:** Hanging of the Greens

## October Outreach Giving

DMF \$ 1625

Reconciliation \$ 230

Food Pantry \$ 1090

W.O.C. \$ 1486

**Total \$ 4431**

## November Birthdays

5 Becky Shepard

8 Geno Hegre

13 Barb Munsell, John Requist

14 Fred Rivas

17 Elaine Conkel

18 Gary Thompson

22 Paul Sebring

24 Lori Baker

28 Cyndy Whitmarsh



## Music Note...

Hi, everyone!

I hope you enjoyed October and got spooked on Halloween. Now we enter into November, where we will get to sing some of my all-time favorite hymns, such as "Now Thank We All, Our God." I hope you all have plans to be around family and friends and find time to reflect on all that you are grateful for this month.

Then we'll kick off the Advent season with our "Hanging of the Greens" service on Sunday, November 27th. The next day, Monday the 29th, we will once again host the School for Music Vocations (SMV) Chamber Singers from Southwestern Community College for an evening concert. I graduated from SMV 17 years ago, and there has not been a day since that I have not used the musical skills I learned there. They will help us get in the Advent and Christmas spirit again as we enter into December.

Please don't hesitate to reach out with any questions about what we're up to in the music department. We always look forward to serving you.

Take care, everyone!

Seth



**Stewardship Service**  
All ages offer their faith  
promise cards in worship.

**Harvest Dinner**  
The Elders provide a delicious  
soup supper following worship.

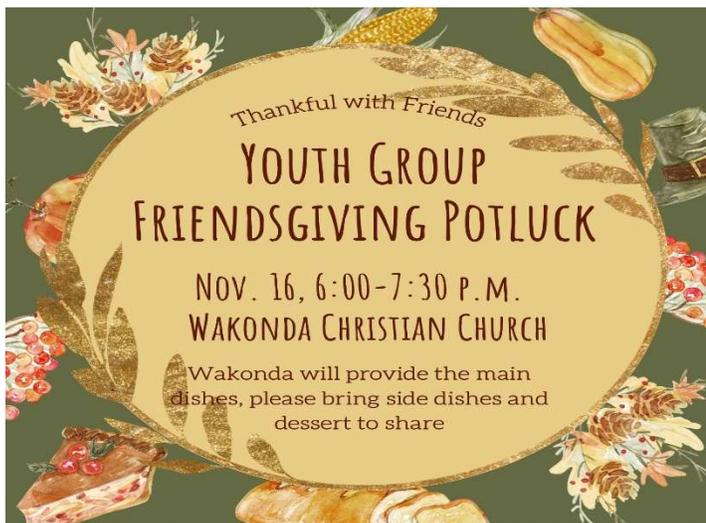
**Faith Promise Sunday**  
November 6, 2022



**Service of Remembrance**  
A service to...  
*remember a loved one passed;  
remember you are not alone;  
remember that we remember, too*

Sunday, November 20  
6:00 p.m.

WAKONDA CHRISTIAN CHURCH  
DISCIPLES OF CHRIST



Thankful with Friends  
**YOUTH GROUP  
FRIENDSGIVING POTLUCK**  
NOV. 16, 6:00-7:30 P.M.  
WAKONDA CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Wakonda will provide the main  
dishes, please bring side dishes and  
dessert to share



SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27  
**Hanging of the Greens**

9:00 a.m. Bring a Christmas treat to share.  
10:00 Bring a toy for the children at  
Bidwell Riverside.



# Whats Happening at Wakonda

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30 <b>8:45 a.m.</b> Sunday School <b>10:00 a.m.</b> Worship	31	1 <b>10:00 a.m.</b> Chit Chats	2 <b>10:30 a.m.</b> Bible Study via ZOOM <b>6:00 p.m.</b> W@W	3 <b>11:30 a.m.</b> W.O.W	4	5 <b>8:00 a.m.</b> B.O.B
6 <b>8:45 a.m.</b> Sunday School <b>10:00 a.m.</b> Worship	7	8 <b>10:00 a.m.</b> Chit Chats	9 <b>10:30 a.m.</b> Bible Study via ZOOM <b>6:00 p.m.</b> W@W	10	11	12
13 <b>8:45 a.m.</b> Sunday School <b>10:00 a.m.</b> Worship	14	15 <b>10:00 a.m.</b> Chit Chats <b>4:00 p.m.</b> Book Club	16 <b>10:30 a.m.</b> Bible Study via ZOOM <b>6:00 p.m.</b> W@W <b>7:30 p.m.</b> Board Meeting	17	18	19
20 <b>8:45 a.m.</b> Sunday School <b>10:00 a.m.</b> Worship <b>6:00 p.m.</b> Service of Remembrance	21	22 <b>10:00 a.m.</b> Chit Chats	23 <i>Offices Closed</i>	24 	25	26
27 <i>Hanging of the Greens</i> <b>10:00 a.m.</b> Worship	28	29 <b>10:00 a.m.</b> Chit Chats	30 <b>10:30 a.m.</b> Bible Study via ZOOM <b>6:00 p.m.</b> W@W	December 1	2	3



**THANKSGIVING MISSION OFFERING – RECEIVED NOV. 13 & 20**  
**This offering is about support for our Disciples of Christ**  
**Colleges, Seminaries & Divinity Houses.**



Higher education has been an important focus for Disciples since the very beginning of the movement. Throughout our history, Disciples have founded institutions of higher learning to educate students and form leaders to make a difference in the world. The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) is still committed to higher education. Your gift to the Thanksgiving Offering helps support the education of thousands of students at our fifteen (15) colleges and universities as well as our seven (7) seminaries and divinity houses.



**NOV.**  
**6 & 13**  
**D.M.A.R.C.**  
**HEALTHY**  
**FOODS**  
**COLLECTIONS DAYS**

**Bring your donations of non-perishable food items, personal items and/or a monetary contribution for the DMARC FOOD Center. MOST**

**NEEDED ITEMS:** tomato, orange or vegetable juices (in cans or plastic bottles); fruit cocktail canned in water or 100% juice (not

in heavy syrup); cans of tomatoes, green beans, mixed vegetables; sweet potatoes (no salt added); dark red kidney beans dry, or canned in water (not pork and beans); peanut butter; tuna, chicken, salmon or sardines (canned in water); dry pasta: whole grain, veggie pasta or egg noodles; rice (white or brown); vegetable soup (low sodium and high protein); pasta sauce (no sugar added and low sodium); cereals: whole grain Cheerios, Wheat Chex, Wheaties, Granola, Shredded Wheat, instant or regular Oatmeal (no sugar added).

FRESH PRODUCE like fruits and vegetables (please donate far before expiration and prime ripeness). PERSONAL ITEMS: Diapers (large sizes); baby wipes; formula and baby food (well-before their expiration dates); soaps, shampoos, lotions, dental products; cleaning products; etc.



**OUR MISSIONARY PRAYER  
CALENDAR FOR SEPTEMBER**

[Please Pray For One Ea. Week By Name]

Wk. of **Nov. 06** – **Cindy Moraga**  
Serving In **Mexico**

Wk. of **Nov. 13** – **Leda Zakarison**  
Serving In **Lebanon**

Wk. of **Nov. 20** – **Mark Knowles**  
Serving In **Lesotho**

Wk. of **Nov. 27** – **Sarah Driver**  
Serving In **Egypt**



**LOOKING TOWARD ADVENT**  
**Which Begins The End Of This Month**

Three things to be looking toward:

**1. ANGEL TREE.**

We are grateful to Steve Moore and Elaine Conkel who will be bringing instructions to us about how we can brighten the life of a child who has an incarcerated parent. You can be an “angel” for that boy or girl by your act of generosity.

**2. HANGING OF THE GREENS**

This year the Advent Season begins on the last Sunday, November 27<sup>th</sup>, with the “Hanging of the Greens” service. It is always a meaningful worship of Scriptures and Hymns, plus a time of festively decorating the sanctuary for the period of the church year when we anticipate the birthday of the Christ child.

**3. PRESENTS UNDER THE TREE**

Our hanging of the greens and decorating of the tree on the chancel is always accompanied by the bringing of toys which will be given to children. This is an annual custom at *Wakonda Christian Church*. All the toys are then given to the *Bidwell Riverside Center* who distributes them to kids through their social services program.

(In Preparation For Your Thanksgiving Offering)  
**VISIT PICTURES & INFORMATION  
ON EACH OF OUR DISCIPLES  
COLLEGES**

Here is the link that will take you to a “page flipping resource” which you can view on your own computer. It will provide two-pages of information on each one of the institutions – featuring pictures and condensed data about each one.

Simply click on the link below, or copy-and-paste it into your browser.

[Disciples Colleges & Universities - Higher Education & Leadership Ministries \(helmdisciples.org\)](http://helmdisciples.org)

Then – click the blue box that says “open.”

From there you only need to use the directional arrows on the left and right of the magazine to enjoy the experience.

