

GOTHENBURG FIRST UNITED  
METHODIST  
1401 LAKE AVENUE  
GOTHENBURG, NE 69138  
REV. GRACE GICHURU



October 2021– Volume 32– Issue 10

# TRUNK OR TREAT



Celebrate Trunk or Treat with Us  
First United Methodist Church  
Wednesday, October 27 from 5:30-8:00  
Soup & Dessert & Games & Treats for All Ages

We will need trunks to be decorated for the kids to “trunk or treat” at. We will also need soups (Chicken Noodle or Chili) and desserts. If you are willing to help with any or all of these fun activities, please contact the church office, Jodi Hinds or Amanda Jensen, and there will also be a sign up sheet on the table. This is a community event and we want everyone who comes to have a wonderful time!! We will have the trunks and games set up in the North parking lot and the food set up in the fellowship hall.

***Being a Christian is like being a Jack O Lantern. God picks you from the patch, brings you in, and washes all the dirt off you. Then He cuts off the top and scoops out all the yucky stuff. He removes the seeds of doubt, hate and greed. Then He carves you a new smiling face, and puts His light inside you to shine for all the world to see.***

## FACTS AND FIGURES

General Giving Thru Sept. 26 Actual: \$126,744  
Budgeted: \$147,698

Percent of Budgeted: 85.7%

General Expenses Thru Sept. 26

Actual \$128,256

Budgeted \$143,462

Percent of Budgeted 89.5%

Paid Apportionments Thru Sept. 26

Actual: \$14,352.75 Budgeted: \$14,352.76

Percent of Budgeted: 100%

Budgeted Checking Balance (\$4,900.28)

Furnace Fund Balance \$5,979

Furnace Fund Goal \$10,000

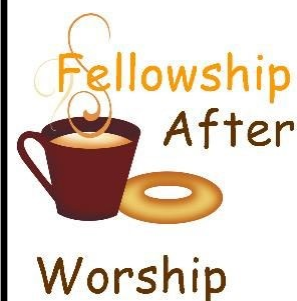
## College Student Addresses

If you have a student in college, PLEASE let the office know. We would like to get your students address so that we can continue to be in contact with them while they are at school. We will be sending them newsletters monthly and also they will periodically be getting a care package from their church family!! Please call or email the church office with your students college addresses as soon as possible!



## Fellowship Time

Fellowship Coffee following the worship service has been a great success. As a result, several people have indicated that they would like to see it continue. This is strictly done as a result of people volunteering to make coffee and furnish a light refreshment. A sign up sheet will be in the narthex if you would like to be a part of this. We will continue as long as people are willing to be a part of this event. BIG thanks to all who have generously provided the wonderful refreshments. It has been a blessing to be able to fellowship together!



## OCTOBER BIRTHDAY'S

1– Eldon Haynes

4– June Sabin, Tom Shea

7– Greenlee Jeffries

10– Jami Brundage, Mike Ackerman,  
Carolyn Simmons

11– Mike McVay

14– Amy Harrison

15– Maddy Anderson

16– Dennis VanOverbeke, Matt Ostergard

21– Cedric Bryant

22– Lynn Vass, Tim Fecht

23– Barbra Franzen

24– Tyler Stienike

25– Susan Kirkpatrick

26– Randy Burge, Chaseton Blauvelt

27– Allen Fickenscher, Angela Easterday

29– Marilyn Erlandson

30– Brian Weiss





## *From the Pastor's Desk*

Fall Greetings,

Acts 2:42-47 is one of my favorite scripture passages. The passage details the fellowship of the very first believers. "They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and prayer...all the believers were together and had everything in common...They...ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved." The passage describes this church as a learning church, fellowshiping church, praying church, a praising church and a sharing church. They shared not only their material possessions but also their gifts, talents and responsibilities of the church. The result was unprecedented growth of that small group of believers.

How I pray and hope that we would all embrace that Spirit of the first church. You might have heard this many times, that every Christian is called into ministry in one way or the other. We only need to figure out where our gifts fit and serve in that area. These activities of the earliest church are introduced to us as priorities of the church. These are the things to which these saints devoted themselves. These were not options. These were the fruit of a genuine conversion and of life in Christ. I guess the Acts church is not perfect church, it is simply pursuing the right things.

October is usually a busy month in the life of the United Methodist Church. During this Month we nominate new church leaders and hold an annual charge conference. One of the important aspects of

this conference is the celebration of how God has worked in and through our church. Quite often we are stressed out by the paperwork involved and miss the celebration part. There is so much to celebrate about our church ministries. I appreciate all our awesome leaders and volunteers who continue to give of their time and resources in service of the KING. If you are not plugged-in yet, please join us. There is room for you to serve.

I end with these words from Colossians 3:23-24 "Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ"

God bless each of you and may your October be filled with a harvest of blessings!

Pastor Grace Gichuru.

*"There is a time for everything,  
and a season for every activity  
under the heavens:"*  
~Ecclesiastes 3:1



## The Beat

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Gothenburg First United Methodist Church

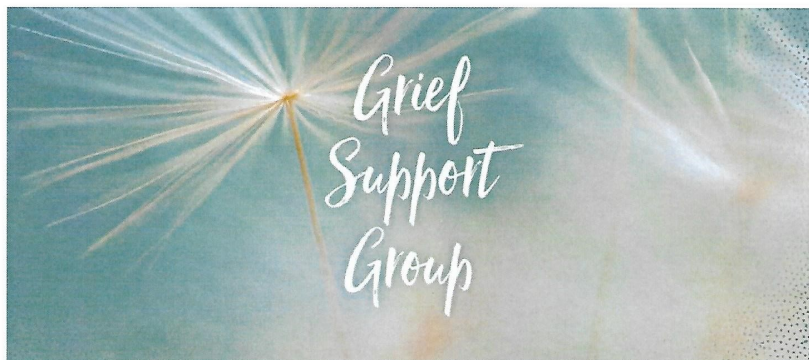


Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.

The people of The United Methodist Church®

### Retired Persons Lunch Bunch

There will be no Tricks but plenty of Treats as Lunch Bunch Retirement Group gathers on Wednesday, October 6 at 11:30 am in the Fellowship Hall. We welcome all seniors 55 years of age and older. Come and join in the fun, fellowship, and delicious pot luck treats. We guarantee a good time!!



***HOSTED BY:** Unchained Ministries  
Celebrate Recovery*

***WHEN:** Every Thursday at 8:00pm-9:00pm following  
Celebrate Recovery Program*

***WHERE:** United Methodist Church  
Gothenburg Ne*

***Come in through the North Doors***

***Any Questions please call:***

***Jodi: 308-440-0896***

***Kevin: 308-529-8557***

***Susan: 308-529-1740***

### Family Matters

Food, fun, and fellowship were found at Family Matters during our first meeting. 27 youth ate and played games and studied with their respective leaders. A delicious meal of "Totchos" was served by our kitchen crew. Come and join the fun and bring a friend each Wednesday night from 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm!!

### Third Grade Bibles

Kendrick Connolley, son of Matt and Kristi Connolley, is a third grader this year. He will be honored with his Bible, given by the Memorial Committee, during a church service in October. Congratulations to him!!

### **BIG THANKS!!**

Thank you sometimes is just not enough. The Harvest Festival Dinner went very well. Even though we did not have as big of turn out as we were hoping, we were still able to raise some money for the church! The weather was good outside and there was some stiff competition at the park this year. Thanks to **ALL** who organized, helped set up, cook, serve, provide pies, and clean up! This is a definite team effort and could not have been done without each one of you.