

# THE CONNECTION

## October 2022



*Connecting God's People Through Love*

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 Elijah's Closet 10-2
2 <i>17<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost</i>  Worship 10 AM Communion <b>Trustees Mtg. after service</b>	3	4	5	6	7 Elijah's Closet 10-2	8 Elijah's Closet 10-2
9 <i>18<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost</i> Worship 10 AM	10	11	12  <i>Elijah's Closet Volunteers Mtg. 4:45</i>	13	14 Elijah's Closet 10-2	15 Elijah's Closet 10-2
16 <i>19<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost</i>  Worship 10 AM <b>Deacons &amp; Christian Ed. Mtg. after service</b>	17 <b>Church In Society Mtg. 6:30 @ Church</b>	18	19	20	21 Elijah's Closet 10-2 <b>Prudential Board Mtg 3:30 via Zoom</b>	22 Elijah's Closet 10-2
23 <i>20<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost</i>  Worship 10 AM	24	25	26	27	28	29
30 <i>20<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost</i>  Worship 10 AM	31  <i>Halloween</i>					

## Revised Common Lectionary

The readings used at our weekly worship service and in most Mainline Protestant Churches and in Roman Catholic Churches are from a list of assigned readings known as The New Revised Common Lectionary. In our Congregational tradition, pastors are encouraged to use the assigned readings but it is not mandatory.

I personally prefer to follow the readings and I mainly focus on the Gospel lessons for my meditation. It gives me and you a structure through which we can study and learn from the teachings of the scripture of the Word (Logos) of God in our midst.

The readings for August: (You are encouraged to read them as well)

Date	1 <sup>st</sup> Reading and Psalm	Alternate 1 <sup>st</sup> Reading and Psalm	2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading	Gospel
October 2, 2022 Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost	<u>Lamentations 1:1-6</u>  <u>Lamentations 3:19-26</u> <b>or</b> <u>Psalm 137</u>	<u>Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4</u>  <u>Psalm 37:1-9</u>	<u>2 Timothy 1:1-14</u>	<u>Luke 17:5-10</u>
October 9, 2022 Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost	<u>Jeremiah 29:1, 4-7</u>  <u>Psalm 66:1-12</u>	<u>2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c</u>  <u>Psalm 111</u>	<u>2 Timothy 2:8-15</u>	<u>Luke 17:11-19</u>
October 16, 2022 Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost	<u>Jeremiah 31:27-34</u>  <u>Psalm 119:97-104</u>	<u>Genesis 32:22-31</u>  <u>Psalm 121</u>	<u>2 Timothy 3:14-4:5</u>	<u>Luke 18:1-8</u>
October 23, 2022 Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost	<u>Joel 2:23-32</u>  <u>Psalm 65</u>	<u>Sirach 35:12-17</u> <b>or</b> <u>Jeremiah 14:7-10, 19-22</u>  <u>Psalm 84:1-7</u>	<u>2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18</u>	<u>Luke 18:9-14</u>
October 30, 2022 Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost	<u>Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4</u>  <u>Psalm 119:137-144</u>	<u>Isaiah 1:10-18</u>  <u>Psalm 32:1-7</u>	<u>2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12</u>	<u>Luke 19:1-10</u>

## **From the Treasurer**

### *August Offering Information*

Monthly amount needed to meet the yearly budget of \$85,325: \$7,110

August Offering: \$3,690

Many thanks to all of you for not only your money but your time and talents.

*Marc*

## **Moderator's Message**

October 2022

Isaiah 52:7 - How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of the one who brings news of peace, who announces good things, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns!"

The beauty of our changing seasons brought these words of Isaiah 52:7 to mind as I daily marvel at the artwork of our awesome God. Indeed, "to everything there is a season," and for many, this is a season of anticipation which will lead us through a celebration of our saints, Thanksgiving, and Advent.

As a passionate shopper, I see the merchandising trends adapting to our anticipation and our impulsivity. Halloween candy is already being replaced with Christmas décor. And the demand for seasonal decorations clearly favors the Thanksgiving themes of thankfulness, gratitude, and blessings.

Our church is blessed in every season by the devotion of our Pastor Janet and Organist Steven to meaningful worship; by Dana's attention to detail in communications; by the tireless work of the Elijah's Closet volunteers and Deb's and Mary's organization skills. We are thankful for the work of our committees—Trustees, Deacons, Church in Society, and Christian Education, and the thoughtful oversight of the Prudential Board.

The pandemic taught us lessons we could not anticipate, and each of us is changed in some way. Every organization is now re-evaluating expectations and adapting to a "new" normal. As a church family, we must do the same with respectful dialogue and prayer. We know "God is still speaking. . . ." because we hear the call. How do we become those beautiful messengers who bring the good news?

We must grow our presence. We must be a beacon of light and hope in a community of need. We must work together. Please find a reason to join our campaign of community outreach. We are beginning with a committee to provide a pre-ordered, takeout Thanksgiving meal to be prepared and distributed on Tuesday and Wednesday, November 22 and 23. If you can help, please contact the church office (607-865-4066; secretary@uccwalton.com).

Heavenly God, we welcome October with great anticipation and hope. How great and amazing is our God! Thank You for Your many answered prayers. It's difficult to find the words to express our gratitude for all the ways You have blessed our lives. We pray that You will bless and prosper the works of our hands throughout this new month. In Jesus' name, Amen!

*Diane*

**A NOTE FROM**  
**Janet**

**EATING WITH SINNERS**

Luke in the 15th chapter states: "Now all tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. And the Pharisees and scribes were grumbling and saying, 'This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.'" I guess they never viewed themselves as sinners. Yet, in God's eyes, we are all sinners. Actually, what is really being said here is that "those" people are not acceptable in our eyes. We all have a prejudicial eye. The question that we must deal with is – do we recognize others as equal to us?

This country has a long tradition (as do others as well) of establishing a "pecking" order. Of course, the ones on top are like us – the rest fall into another, maybe undesirable, category. In many people's view white, European origin, protestant, hetero-couples are superior and the rest – well, they just fall into another category that some may believe to be less perfect. But again, we are all less than perfect! As an Open and Affirming church we say and we need to ensure that: "Regardless of who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome!" Yes, we eat with sinners for we are all sinners!

*Pastor Janet*

## **Thanksgiving Meal**

We are planning a Thanksgiving meal for the community. The meal will consist of a Thanksgiving Casserole with turkey, gravy, stuffing, and mashed potato, a side of green beans, and a dessert of apple crumb cake. The meal will be provided free of charge as a take-out meal only.

We are seeking volunteers to help make, pack, and distribute the meals on Tuesday, Nov. 22 from 10-4 (or until done) and Wednesday Nov. 23<sup>rd</sup> from 11-6. Any time would be helpful, you wouldn't need to be here the whole day. The meal will be distributed on Wednesday, 11/22 from 3:00 PM- 6:00 PM as a drive thru in the church parking lot.

If you would like to volunteer, please contact the church office by calling (607) 865-4066. You can also email [secretary@uccwalton.com](mailto:secretary@uccwalton.com).

## **COFFEE HOUR**

At our Back to Church Sunday Lemonade Hour, we talked about starting up Coffee Hour again and decided to start slowly with having the gathering, in the parlor, on Communion Sunday.

So, starting Sunday, November 6 we will again enjoy each other company after our service. There will be a sign-up sheet on the table at the top of the stairs for anyone who would like to host. You may also contact Dana at the Church office by calling (607) 865-4066 or email [secretary@uccwalton.com](mailto:secretary@uccwalton.com).