November 2026

Carillion

Our Vision statement:

To live by Faith

To Be known by Love

To Be Voice of Hope

Office: 235-8430

Pastor Ben Morris

Notes from the Pastor

Stewardship Series starts November 1st.

When we hear the word stewardship, we often think about money and giving to the church. But stewardship is really about something much bigger. It's about recognizing all that God has entrusted to us and considering how we respond. Beginning November 1st, our new series, A Generous Life, will invite us to think about generosity not simply as something we do, but how we respond to God's grace everyday.

Throughout the series, we'll reflect on four important ways God's generosity shapes our faith and daily lives:

Everything Is a Gift—Recognizing God as the source of all we are.

Enough—Learning the freedom of contentment.

Open Hands—Discovering how faith invites us to live with greater trust.

Joyful Generosity—Seeing generosity not simply as an obligation, but as a joyful response to the grace we have received.

Alongside the messages in Sunday worship, we will be using a daily devotional as an opportunity to explore these themes into our daily lives. The devotional will be available digitally (emailed from the church office, making it easy to read from your computer, tablet, or phone. Printed copies will also be available in the narthex for those who prefer a physical copy.

I believe that stewardship is very much a spiritual issue; I hope you will utilize this daily devotional resource so that we can be praying together about how God may be calling us to share our time, talents, and gifts in the coming year.

We worship a gracious and generous God who has given us all things. What an invitation we have been given to respond with the same generosity in our own lives!

Blessings,

Pastor Ben

November 7
Fall Bazaar & Craft Sale
9:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.

November 15
Day by Day Meal
5:30 p.m.

November 18
Missions
10:00 a.m.

November 19
Leadership Team

North High Madrigal Visit Sunday, December 6th

The Madrigal Singers from Oshkosh North High School are coming to First UMC on Sunday, December 6th! Their performance will begin at 10:15 a.m., prior to the start of our 10:30 worship service. Mark your calendars for this special musical performance!

Celebrate Our Community

Every month we celebrate birthdays and anniversaries of those who call First United Methodist Church their spiritual home. We celebrate community fellowship with one another. Be sure to greet those who are celebrating this month. Please don't assume we know all of the birthdays and anniversaries among us. Call the church office and let us know your special milestone dates, too!

ANNIVERSARIES

6	Lindy & Daniel Duffy

BIRTHDAYS

3	Kris Nicholson	14	Darlene Anderson
6	Sherri Hauke	17	Frank Jakubowski
9	Joyce Jakubowski	18	Jody Dickson
10	Matt Nourollah		

Thank you for your gifts to First United Methodist Church!

Together, we share in God's work of love and service within our community. We invite you to consider a way of giving that feels right for you, knowing that every gift makes a difference. Thank you for giving as part of our shared ministry!

- **Automatic Withdrawal:** Vanco offers automatic, electronic funds transfer (EFT) from your checking or savings account. You can pick up a form in the church office.
- **Mail:** Your contribution to church at 700 W. Linwood Avenue, Oshkosh, WI 54901
- **Offering Plate:** You can bring your tithes and offerings to church services.
- **Online:** https://secure.myvanco.com/L-YS9T **or by using the Vanco App!**

There are people who will benefit for generations as we give together.

Offering Our Prayers

We are honored to join hearts with those who are grieving, sick or hurting among us. Please pray for those listed below. We'd love to pray with you, too. Contact Ann Tulip (920-379-9055) or Church Office (920-235-8430) to be added to the prayer chain. We would also love to pray for you during our Sunday service. Please submit your brief request by phone, mail or email at office@firstumcoshkosh.org by Monday of each week. We will compile them for the community prayers during our recording Sunday morning.

Prayer & Praise Requests for the Month

- Daphne—Still need prayers for Dan, he has his 5th chemo on Thursday and PET scan on Tuesday.
- OASD Students and especially North High students.
- Daphne—Dan's PET scan showed the chemo is working. 10/22 is his last scheduled chemo. Still need prayers, I truly believe they are working.
- Carol—For a successful back surgery on Tuesday.
- Continued prayer for Mike & Beth Thomas.
- Continued prayers for Ukraine, as well as peace and kindness.
- Daphne—Dan' last chemo is this week, still need prayers.
- Oshkosh West One Act advances to sectionals. Go Centaurs!
- Prayers for Phil Heinrich that his surgery and recovery go well and prayers for his family Nancy, Kyle and Josh.
- For the family of Irena, Betty's sister who passed away.
- Ruth & Tony—Carol Klabunde back surgery.
- Continued prayers for Mike & Beth Thomas. Safe travels for Dennis Thomas.

Ongoing Prayer Concerns

- Glenn Christman (Pastor Nancy Green's brother)
- Brad Green
- Judi Weinert

Fill the Collection Box

Please drop them off in the collection box in the Narthex.

Men's and Woman's Deodorant
Paper Towels
Shoe Laces—shoe and boot, various lengths
USB C Charging Cables
Powdered Coffee Creamer
Snack Food/Applesauce and Fruit Cups
Laundry Detergent
Cleaners—Window, Floor, and Toilet All Surface
Dryer Sheets
Garbage Bags—All sizes, wastebasket up to 55 gallon
Popular Condiments: Mayo, Hot Sauce, Ranch Dressing Parmesan Cheese
Hair Brushes
Reuseable Water Bottles
Backpacks
Umbrellas
Coffee
Belts
Sugar
Sugary Cereal
Juice

Holiday Food Drive

Broth, Cans or Jars of Gravy, Cornbread Mix, Boxed Scalloped Potatoes, Boxed Au Gratin Potatoes, Canned Cream Soups, Mashed Potatoes, Stuffing Mix, French Fried Onions, Flavored Instant Potatoes, Marshmallows, Yams, Collard Greens, Green Beans, Creamed Corn & Dinner Rolls

Day by Day Shelter meals for 2026

Please mark your calendars and as we get near these dates, Contact Mike Thomas if you will be able to assist with providing a meal at the Day by Day Warming Shelter.

1. Sunday, November 15th 5:30 p.m.
2. Sunday, December 13th 5:30 p.m.

We have two batches of Stew in the freezer at church and also the meat for the next batch that we will likely prepare in December.

Reminder: Everyone is invited to attend the Fall Bazaar & Craft Sale

Pastor Ben Preaching at Evergreen

Pastor Ben will be preaching at the Vespers Service at Evergreen on Sunday, November 8th. If you are an Evergreen resident, come by the chapel for service at 3:30 p.m. in the afternoon on the 8th.

Buy Scrip Cards

Scrip cards are like any other gift card. Give them away as gifts or use them yourself when you shop. Our church benefits by earning a rebate on each card; some as high as 10%. The cards you order are available the following Sunday. "Scrip Table" in the hallway by the display case on Sunday morning to pick up an order form. Then bring back your filled out form by Sunday, December 6, 2026

Fellowship Hour

Please sign up to host a Fellowship Hour. If no one sign up there will be no fellowship hour that Sunday. It's easy and we need your help to keep it going. The sign-up sheet is on the Information Table in the Narthex.

Stewardship

The Worst Part About Gratitude? It Works

I recently came across a humorous Instagram video in which a comedian talks about his therapist encouraging him to practice gratitude. He clearly does not want to do it. With frustration and sarcasm, he talks about being told to name a few things he is grateful for each day. And then he delivers the punchline: the worst part about gratitude is that it works.

That line stuck with me.

This time of year naturally turns our attention toward gratitude. Thanksgiving invites us to pause, reflect, and give thanks. But if we are honest, gratitude can feel harder to practice when finances are tight, uncertainty is high, or the future feels unclear, Churches feel that pressure. Families feel that pressure. Individuals do too.

In those moments, gratitude can sound too simple—almost naïve. But gratitude is not pretending everything is easy. It is not denial. It is not ignoring hardship. Gratitude is choosing to notice that, even in the middle of challenge, God is still present, and still at work.

In that sense, gratitude changes what we see.

When I used to ride a motorcycle, I learned a simple but important lesson: where you look matters. If there is something in the road you want to avoid, you do not stare directly at it. If you fixate on it, there is a good chance you will ride right into it. Instead, you look toward where you want to go.

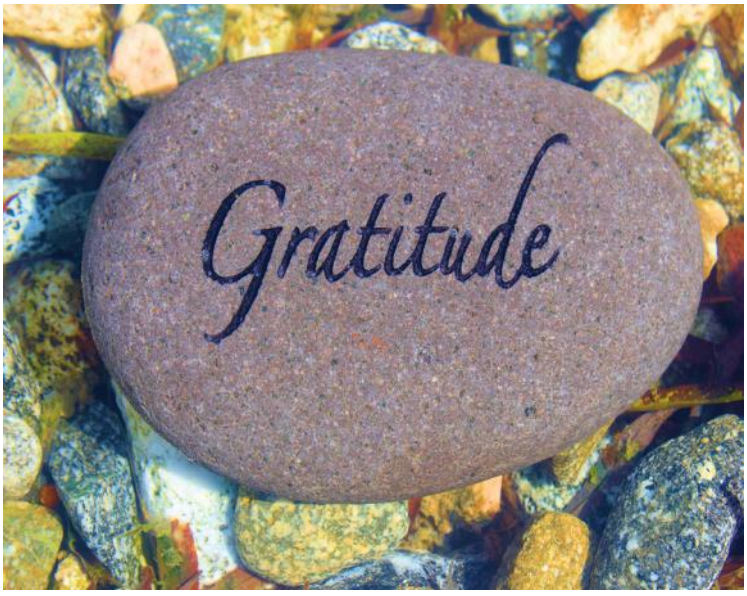
Life is often like that too.

If we focus only on scarcity, fear, and what might go wrong, those things begin to dominate our vision. They shape our mood, our decision-making, and our sense of possibility. But if we intentionally look for signs of God's provision, evidence of change lives, and the gifts already in our midst, that focus begins to shape us too. It does not eliminate difficulty, but changes how we travel through it.

That is especially true in stewardship.

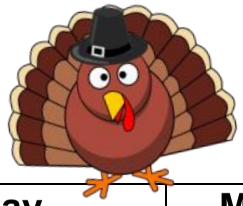
Gratitude helps move us from anxiety to trust, from fear to faith, and from clenched hands to open ones. It reminds us that stewardship does not being with obligation. It begins with recognizing what God has already given. We give because we first received.

This November, even in difficult financial times, perhaps on of the most faithful things we can do is practice gratitude. Name what is good. Give thanks for what God has done. Notice the blessings that are already present. As that comedian discovered, much to his irritation, the worst part about gratitude may just be that it works.



Last year as part of our stewardship campaign we invited those who had been collecting loose change over the past year as part of our "Thank Offering" during stewardship season. Almost $700 was raised! We split this amount between Day by Day Shelter and the Oshkosh Area Food Pantry.

Our "Thank Offering" will be collected this year on November 22nd. Please bring your jars or any loose change on that day!



November 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**	**6**	**7**
9:30 a.m. Coffee Fellowship **10:30 a.m.** Worship				9:00 a.m. Quilters		9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Fall Bazaar & Craft Sale
8	**9**	**10**	**11**	**12**	**13**	**14**
9:30 a.m. Coffee Fellowship **10:30 a.m.** Worship				9:00 a.m. Quilters		
15	**16**	**17**	**18**	**19**	**20**	**21**
9:30 a.m. Coffee Fellowship **10:30 a.m.** Worship 5:30p.m. Day by Day			10:00 a.m. Missions	9:00 a.m. Quilters 1:00 p.m. Leadership Team		
22	**23**	**24**	**25**	**26**	**27**	**28**
9:30 a.m. Coffee Fellowship **10:30 a.m.** Worship				9:00 a.m. Quilters		
29	**30**					
9:30 a.m. Coffee Fellowship **10:30 a.m.** Worship						

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The Carillion is published monthly for the members and friends of First United Methodist Church,
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