MINOR MEMORIAL
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Guiding and encouraging people to take their next steps following Christ

Grace and peace to you, church family!

As we enter November, we find ourselves in a season filled with opportunities for gratitude, reflection, and renewed commitment to God. It's a time to remember that everything we have and everything we are comes from the gracious hand of our Heavenly Father. Throughout this month, our worship series, “A November of Surrender: Faithful Living Through Christian Stewardship,” will focus on Jesus’ words in Matthew 25:23: *“Well done, good and faithful servant.”*

These words remind us that Christian stewardship is about much more than money. It is about faithfully managing the gifts God has entrusted to us—our time, talents, resources, relationships, and opportunities to serve. True stewardship begins with surrender, recognizing that everything belongs to God and that we are called to use His blessings for His glory. As we begin our annual stewardship campaign, I encourage each of us to prayerfully consider how we can offer our time and resources in service to Christ and His Church. May our commitments reflect not obligation, but joyful gratitude and faithful trust in God's provision.

November also provides meaningful opportunities to put our faith into action. On Election Day, November 3rd, I encourage everyone to exercise the important privilege and responsibility of voting. As followers of Christ, we are called to participate thoughtfully and prayerfully in the life of our communities, seeking justice, compassion, peace, and the common good.

On Sunday, November 22, we will celebrate Christ the King Sunday, proclaiming that Jesus Christ reigns above all earthly powers and that our ultimate allegiance belongs to Him. This special day will also serve as our Stewardship Commitment Sunday when we will bring forward our completed pledge cards as an act of worship and dedication. Together, we will offer our commitments of time, talents, and financial resources to God, trusting Him to use our gifts to strengthen the ministry and mission of Minor Memorial United Methodist Church.

Immediately following worship, we will gather around “The Family Table,” our churchwide potluck. What a wonderful opportunity to share food, fellowship, laughter, and the blessings of being one family in Christ! After our meal, everyone is invited to stay and help decorate our church for Advent as we prepare our hearts and sanctuary for the coming of our Savior.

Finally, on Sunday, November 29th, we begin the sacred season of Advent with our new worship series, “Thou Long Expected Jesus,” inspired by Mark 1:1 and 13:35. As we journey toward Christmas, may we prepare our hearts with hope, expectation, and watchfulness for the One who has come and will come again.

As we celebrate Thanksgiving, may we remember that gratitude is not simply something we express around a table once a year. It is a daily response to God's goodness. When we recognize how richly we have been blessed, our thanksgiving naturally becomes action—loving our neighbors, serving those in need, and sharing generously.

May this November lead us to surrender more fully, give more joyfully, and serve more faithfully.

In Christ’s Name and In God’s Service,
Rev. Sam

