NOVEMBER

Written & Submitted by Adam Ramirez

Christ, King And Companion All the Saints

Where did the year go?! Summer doesn't feel that long ago… The weather is changing and winter is coming. The polarization of the world and communities around us keeps us upset or tense. Thanksgiving gatherings are coming up and Christmas shopping is starting at many stores. Our lives are about to get busy in a few weeks and multiple things are ramping up through the end of the year!

These are challenging reminders for many of us: despite pleasant moments happening, we live in a difficult and confusing time. We're more interconnected around the world than ever, but feeling deeply isolated from our immediate surroundings. Thankfully, as people of faith, we don't have to face this isolation alone. We are entering into a season where we can cherish sacred experiences with *deep companionship*. This month we have All Saints' Day and Christ the King in our church calendar.

November 1 is All Saints' Day. It happens to be a Sunday this year too. It's an opportunity to remember all those in every place and time who died in the Lord (Revelation 14:13) in the hope of the resurrection (1 Thessalonians 4:13–14). The writer of Hebrews refers to the saints as a great cloud of witnesses surrounding us (Heb. 12:1). So, remembering the life and work of our loved ones who shared so many meaningful years among us as companions serves as deep encouragement. Church musician Dan Schutte captures this sentiment well in his song *Saints and Beloved of God.* Here are some lines:

In every place and time the blessed walk among us.

There's a mighty throng that stands at our side: the saints and beloved of God.

We are joined by a great communion, here on earth and in heav'n above, for this feast prepared by Christ the Lord, companions in his love.

Then at the end of November, we have Christ the King Sunday. We proclaim he rules over all, but he is also our companion along this journey. We have several Bible readings that remind us that Jesus is our Shepherd. We believe we are his people, the sheep of his pasture!

As this leads us into the season of Advent, contrary to the rules of a world where discarded when deemed disposable, the rule of Jesus as a Prince of Peace will *never* price us out of his Kingdom or Kin-dom. He is our companion and makes us his kin! And the reign of Christ is one of righteousness, restoration, and kinship forever. Through Jesus, all saints participate in his reign and companionship of mercy and love for the life of the world. What a blessing it is to be his saints and kin!

CHURCH INFORMATION

Worship Time 10:30AM
Office Hours: Monday - Friday
9AM - 1PM
Phone: 712-263-4130
Email: upcdenison@gmail.com
Website: www.upcdenison.com
Facebook: UpcDenison

Interim Pastor:
Rev. Richard Francis

Director of Worship:
Adam Ramirez

Office Administrator:
Barb Kessel

Clerk of Session:
Lisa Langholz

Treasurer:
Patti K Boettger

Choir Director:
Kristy Zenk

Organist:
Marilynn Jepsen

Technology:
Nancy Voggesser

Janitor:
Guillermina Mendoza

WORSHIP INFO

November 1 @ 10:30AM

Communion
Pulpit: Rev. Richard Francis
Liturgist: Donna Kuehnhold
Ushers: Harold Chapman & Wayne Igou
Communion Servers: Harold Chapman, Wayne Igou, Shar Hulstein & Corrine Mehaffey
$: Jean Nihsen
Coffee Hour: Worship Committee

November 8 @ 10:30AM

Pulpit: Rev. Richard Francis
Liturgist: Denise Garvis
Ushers: Barb Schmidt & Gayle Chapman
$: Al Olson
Coffee Hour: F&O Turkey Dinner

November 15 @ 10:30AM

Pulpit: Adam Ramirez
Liturgist: Denise Philipp
Ushers: Al Olson & Lou McKinley
$: Al Olson
Coffee Hour: Deacons

November 22 @ 10:30AM

Pulpit: Adam Ramirez
Liturgist: Bill Bruce
Ushers: Penny Kinney & Kristy Zenk
$: Patti K Boettger
Coffee Hour: Wayne Igou & Denise Philipp

November 29 @ 10:30AM

Pulpit: Adam Ramirez
Liturgist: Joyce Bohnker
Advent Readers: Lisa Langholz & Kristy Zenk
Ushers: Kathy Francis & Carol Block
$: Patti K Boettger
Coffee Hour: Denise Garvis & Alysia Ramirez



WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

September 27	October 4	October 11	October 18	October 25
In Person 36	In Person 32	In Person 28	In Person 32	In Person 28
Online	Online X	Online X	Online X	Online X
Communion x	Communion 32	Communion x	Communion x	Communion x

STEWARDSHIP & FINANCE

Committee: Patti Bottger, Al Olson, Jean Nihsen

Meeting was held on:
October 19, 2026

Checking Account Balance:
For September 2026
Beginning $34,016.80
Ending $28,152.04

Edward Jones Accounts:
For September 2026
Adams Balance:
$255,526.16
Building Fund Balance:
$12,252.78

Next Meeting: November 16

1 Timothy 6:17-19 – *17 As for those who in the present age are rich, command them not to be haughty or to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches but rather on God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. 18 They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share, 19 thus storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of the life that really is life.*

CHURCH OFFICE

Office Hours: Monday – Friday 9AM – 1PM

The church office will be CLOSED:

November 11 (for Veteran's Day)

November 26 & 27, 2026 (for Thanksgiving)

If you would like to speak with Adam Ramirez or Rev. Richard Francis, please call the church office to set up an appointment.

ENVELOPES 2027

If you would like contribution envelopes for 2027, please call the church office.

You have a choice of monthly or weekly.

Last date to order envelopes is November 29, 2026



PICTURE DAY

On November 8, we will have a photographer here to take a pictures for our upcoming Directory. If you have not yet had one taken, please come on the 8th prepared to be photographed. It will be on a first come first serve basis. If you have any questions, contact Nancy Voggesser.



DEACONS

Daryl Philipp, Jayne Lyons, Beth Argotsinger, Ala Smithson, Shar Hulstein, Kyle Bohnker, Donna Kuehnhold

NEXT MEETING: November 4 @ 6:30PM

HANGING OF THE GREENS

The worship committee invites Presbyterian bodies to help with organizing the Hanging of the Greens. We will be asking students to assist us again this year on Sunday, November 22. Our preparation will include: getting decorations organized and out of cabinets, greens fluffed and stretched out, and understanding where each item should be placed.

We all enjoy the beauty of all the Christmas decorations but it take many people to make it happen. Please considering helping where you can.



BIBLE VERSES TO INVESTIGATE

Mark 13:24-37

1 John 3:1-3

Matthew 25:31- 46



PRESBYTERY OF PROSPECT HILL PRAYER FOR CHURCHES

11/1: Retired Pastors

11/8: Pastors who serve as Members at Large
~ Rev. Donna Grey

11/15 Presbytery Staff

11/22 First Presbyterian Church, Sioux City
~ Rev. Mark Bedford

11/29 First Presbyterian Church, Lake Park

CONTINUED PRAYERS OTHERS

- Melissa Schmidt - Cancer
- Roger Mohr - health
- Steve Rogers - cancer
- Mark Bilsten - health
- Peace
- Our Session
- Our Members
- Our Community
- Our Country



SESSION

REV. RICHARD FRANCIS,
-MODERATOR

LISA LANGHOLZ, *CLERK*

ADAM RAMIREZ,
-DIRECTOR OF WORSHIP

MIKE SCHIMDT,
-PROPERTY & PERSONNEL

DEAN ARGOTSINGER,
-PROPERTY

HAROLD CHAPMAN,
-PROPERTY

AL OLSON
-NOMINATING & FINANCE

KRISTY ZENK,
-F&O, WORSHIP, MEMORIAL

NANCY VOGGESSER,
-TECHNOLOGY, PERSONEL, CHRIST. ED

GAYLE CHAPMAN,
-MISSION, MEMBERSHIP

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

Session Meeting was held on 10/15/26

- Phyllis Harms was removed from the Membership Role.
- The sound board for the sanctuary has completely failed. Purchase of a new system and components is in process. It will take 4-6 weeks.
- A letter was received from Rev. Harry Strong along with a copy of his book. The book is located in the office if someone would like to read it.
- A note was received from the family of Marcia Bachman thanking us for the use of the church for her funeral.
- Tieryn Tucker will be at church on 10/11 to take more photos and directory photos. A reminder will be sent to church members via Worship Service email.
- The new website is still in progress.
- East door has been repaired. Still working on the automatic door.
- The Mendoza Prayer Group (Joe Lopez Ama Lopez and Mina (Church Custodian) joined the Session to discuss goals of the Mendoza Prayer Group that meets in the Chapel.
- The Session invited the Mendez Group to partake in our Thanksgiving dinner on 11/8/26.
- The Mendoza Prayer Group is requesting to use the Fellowship Hall on Thanksgiving Day for a dinner from 5pm – 9pm. The meal will be prepared off site. Our church members are invited to attend.
- Nolan and Melissa Schmidt would like to have their daughters baptized on 12/9/26.
- **The next Session Meeting will be 11/19/2026.**

"Knock knock."
"Who's there?"
"Lettuce."
"Lettuce who?"
"Lettuce be grateful for our blessings!"

OCTOBER BIBLE TRIVIA ANSWER



At what age did Jesus begin his ministry?

ANSWER: Jesus began his ministry around 30 years old

BIBLE: Luke 3:23

FELLOWSHIP & OUTREACH

The F & O will host the church turkey dinner following worship on Sunday, November 8th, with turkey, dressing, potatoes, green beans, rolls, apple or pumpkin dessert and coffee. The Mendoza Prayer Group has been invited to share this meal with our church family. Please plan on attending!

THANKSGIVING DINNER WITH MENDOZAS

The Mendoza Prayer Group will be serving a Thanksgiving Dinner from 4-9PM on Thanksgiving Day. Everyone is invited to join them in food and fellowship.

THANK YOU

TO OUR FRIENDS AT THE DENISON UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH-
WE WANT TO THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR ALL THE SUPPORT YOU HAVE GIVEN US THESE LAST THREE YEARS!
AND THANKS FOR THE GIFT CARD FOR HYVEE- WE BUY LOST OF GROCERIES!
GOD BLESS YOU ALL! ~ RICHARD & KATHY FRANCIS

NOVEMBER BIBLE TRIVIA



How many times was Jesus tempted by Satan in the wilderness?

HUNGER FIGHTERS

Numbers for the 20th of October food distribution are as follows:

9000 # of food distributed to 218 families consisting of 371 adults and 196 children.

A big thank you to the helpers from Black Hills Energy and the Job Corp and to our regular crew of volunteers. We couldn't do it without you.

Volunteers are always welcome.

Distribution and set up are on the 3rd Tuesday of Every Month.

4 But he answered, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.' "
Matthew 4:4

Every man shall give as he is able, according to the blessings of the Lord, your God which He has giving you. ~ Deuteronomy 16:17

MISSION COMMITTEE

The Mission Committee's focus in November and December will be the Presbyterian Giving Catalog. This catalog will help you pursue your passions by supporting the causes closest to your heart. When you give gifts with a purpose, you'll be supporting families and communities around the globe who need it most.

The Presbyterian Giving Catalog is available at both entrances to pick up and take with you. Multiple opportunities to give are listed in these magazines for all budgets! Please pick one up, look it over, and consider making a donation. There are some really wonderful items you can donate to families such as chickens, farming tools, helping to educate a child, etc.…You can also look at the catalog on line and make a donation there. Search PRESBYTERIAN GIVING CATALOG https://pcusa.org/giving/giving-catalog. If you would like someone else to do this for you, please mark your offering GIVING CATALOG and we will be happy to assist you with your donation.

Thank you to all who made a contribution to the Neighbor Helping Neighbor fund drive. We received $350 in donations for this cause.

In addition to the physical donations made to TAP by our church in September and October, an additional $250 was also received. Thank you!

Contribution's totaling $255 were received for the World Communion Offering. Thank you!

We are small but mighty!! Thank you to all who contribute in any way to the mission projects!

Our gifts to the Christmas Joy offering, offers assistance to current and retired church workers and their families who may be facing financial crises. Our gifts support leadership development for people of color and Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color. Our also support ministries with children at risk and nurture the faith of youth and young adults through ministries like the Presbyterian Youth Triennium and Young Adult Volunteer program.

CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING

MAKE YOUR DEDICATION FOR POINSETTIAS!

Advent and Christmas are fast approaching and it's time once again to "order" your poinsettias. We have preordered silk poinsettias to reuse every year. We will place your dedication on a "plant" when you submit your dedication. Since you don't physically get to take a poinsettia home there will be no cost. Given that you don't physically get to take a poinsettia home, any contribution for Poinsettias will go toward your contribution for the year and be donated to Neighbor Helping Neighbor. If you would like to donate to the cost of these silk poinsettias, NHN would appreciate the help.

ORDERS DUE BY NOVEMBER 22, 2026

Dedicated TO: _____

_____

FROM: _____



POINSETTIAS

The poinsettia's story blends a Mexican Christmas legend with centuries of cultural and botanical history, making it a symbol of love, faith, and holiday cheer.

The colorful part of the poinsettia is not a flower but bracts, or modified leaves, which change color in response to shorter days and longer nights. The true flowers are the small yellow buds at the center of the bracts. Poinsettias are now a ubiquitous symbol of Christmas, celebrated for their beauty, cultural significance, and the story of humble giving that inspired their legend.

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

11/4 Rory Marken

11/5 Corrine Kinney-Mehaffey

11/24 Jerry Boettger

11/29 Vernis Nihsen

NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

11/2 Vernis & Jean Nihsen

11/18 Kyle & Joyce Bohnker

NOVEMBER DATES TO REMEMBER

11/11 Veterans Day

11/22 Reign of Christ

11/29 First Sunday of Advent

11/26 Thanksgiving



Advent

The liturgical New Year in the Christian calendar, with the focus on both the coming of Christ and His return

The first Sunday of Advent we lite the purple candle of HOPE on the advent wreath.

Scripture emphasizes watchfulness, hope, and God's faithful presence – "be awake" and "keep watch"

Mark 13:24-27

24 "But in those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, 25 and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. 26 "Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory. 27 Then he will send out the angels and gather the elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

VETERANS DAY

Veterans Day is a national observance honoring all U.S. military veterans, both living and deceased, for their service in times of war and peace. It reflects gratitude for those who risked their lives to defend the nation, recognizing their courage, sacrifice, and role in safeguarding peace. The holiday began as Armistice Day in 1919, marking the 1918 ceasefire that ended World War I, and was renamed in 1954 to honor veterans of all American wars.