

The **EPISTLES OF FAITH**

**FAITH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

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Church Website: [www.antigofaithucc.org](http://www.antigofaithucc.org)

**Administrative Assistant:** Laurie Hackbarth

**Church Office Hours:** Monday Closed;

Tuesday through Thursday 8:30 AM - 2:30 PM; Friday - Closed

**Church Council Chair:** Sue Moseman

**SUNDAY SCHEDULE**

**Worship:** 10:30 a.m.

***You are invited - Bring a friend!***

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2025

**A Story from Pastor Wes:**

I put my carry-on in the luggage compartment and sat down in my assigned seat. It was going to be a long flight. 'I'm glad I have a good book to read. Perhaps I will get a short nap,' I thought.

Just before take-off, a line of soldiers came down the aisle and filled all the vacant seats, totally surrounding me. I decided to start a conversation.

'Where are you headed?' I asked the soldier seated nearest to me. 'Petawawa. We'll be there for two weeks for special training, and then we're being deployed to Afghanistan.'

After flying for about an hour, an announcement was made that sack lunches were available for five dollars. It would be several hours before we reached the east, and I quickly decided a lunch would help pass the time...

As I reached for my wallet, I overheard a soldier ask his buddy if he planned to buy lunch. 'No, that seems like a lot of money for just a sack lunch. Probably wouldn't be worth five bucks. I'll wait till we get to base.' His friend agreed.

I looked around at the other soldiers. None were buying lunch. I walked to the back of the plane and handed the flight attendant a fifty dollar bill. 'Take a lunch to all those soldiers.' She grabbed my arms and squeezed tightly. Her eyes wet with tears, she thanked me. 'My son was a soldier in Iraq; it's almost like you are doing it for him.'

Picking up ten sacks, she headed up the aisle to where the soldiers were seated. She stopped at my seat and asked, 'Which do you like best - beef or chicken?'

'Chicken,' I replied, wondering why she asked. She turned and went to the front of the plane, returning a minute later with a dinner plate from first class. 'This is your thanks..'

After we finished eating, I went again to the back of the plane, heading for the rest room. A man stopped me. 'I saw what you did. I want to be part of it. Here, take this.' He handed me twenty-five dollars.

Soon after I returned to my seat, I saw the Flight Captain coming down the aisle, looking at the aisle numbers as he walked, I hoped he was not looking for me, but noticed he was looking at the numbers only on my side of the plane. When he got to my row he stopped, smiled, held out his hand and said, 'I want to shake your hand.' Quickly unfastening my seatbelt I stood and took the Captain's hand.

With a booming voice he said, 'I was a soldier, and I was a military pilot. Once, someone bought me a lunch. It was an act of kindness I never forgot.' I was embarrassed when applause was heard from all of the passengers.

Later I walked to the front of the plane so I could stretch my legs. A man who was seated about six rows in front of me reached out his hand, wanting to shake mine. He left another twenty-five dollars in my palm.

When we landed I gathered my belongings and started to deplane. Waiting just inside the airplane door was a man who stopped me, put something in my shirt pocket, turned, and walked away without saying a word. Another twenty-five dollars!

Upon entering the terminal, I saw the soldiers gathering for their trip to the base. I walked over to them and handed them seventy-five dollars. 'It will take you some time to reach the base. It will be about time for a sandwich. God Bless You.'

Ten young men left that flight feeling the love and respect of their fellow travelers.

As I walked briskly to my car, I whispered a prayer for their safe return. These soldiers were giving their all for our country. I could only give them a couple of meals. It seemed so little...

A veteran is someone who, at one point in his life, wrote a blank check made payable to 'The United States of America ' for an amount of 'up to and including my life.'

That is Honor, and there are way too many people in this country who no longer understand it.' "





Daylight Saving Time Ends

November 2.

Set your clocks back 1 hour

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**Laurie will be on vacation Tuesday, November 4th through Thursday, November 6th. She will be back in the office on Tuesday, November 11th.**

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Sunday, November 16th

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**Wednesday, November 26th**

**@ 7 p.m.**

**St. John’s Catholic Church**

**(Combined Choir Practice @ 6 p.m.)**

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Hanging of the Greens

Sunday, November 23rd

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**December Epistle articles are due**

**November 20th.**

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(Members and Special Friends of the Church) Arlene King; The family of Gene Krueger; The family of Janet Larsen; Sue Moseman

(Family/friends of members) John & Jonelle Gregg; Ed Hilger; Bob Mackiewicz; Sara (granddaughter of Arlene King)

We pray for our military, especially Kassandra Derlein; Ben Glawoki; Padraic Kelly and William Ryan Kelly for their protection and safe return, as well as healing for those who have been injured and are recovering.

We pray for the people suffering from the tragedies of war and for the people recovering from any natural disasters.

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13. Pat & Lisa Prasalowicz

29. Dennis & Sally Schroeder

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1.Florence Case 23. Kelly Derlein

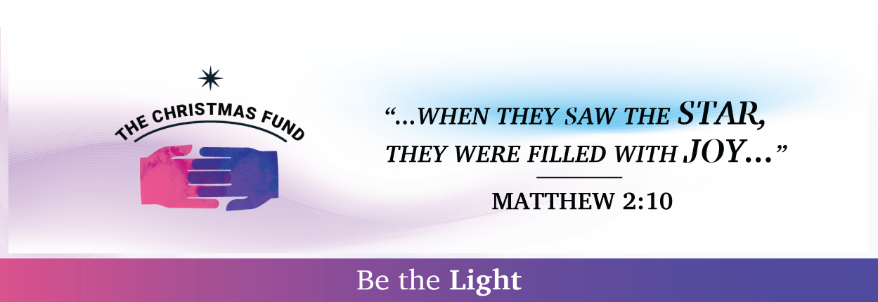
3. Mike Blahnik 26. Padraic Kelly

6. Larry Montour 29. Linda Bruss

10. Laurie Hackbarth 29. Kassandra Derlein

**MISSION SPOTLIGHT**

Every second Sunday of the month is designated as “Mission Sunday.” Instead of collecting for individual missions throughout the year, once a month we will have a general collection for OCWM and the four missions. One of the 4 Missions is **The Christmas Fund.**

**** For over one hundred years, **The Christmas Fund** has provided direct financial assistance to the healers in all our lives: retired and active UCC ministers, church workers, and their families. Last year The Christmas Fund provided over $1.7 million in pension and health benefits, emergency grants, and thank-you checks to retired clergy and their families.