



First United Methodist Church

Faith & Fellowship Newsletter

October 2026



37th & Eisenhower Property Survey

The September newsletter included a full-page article detailing a proposed plan to sell the property at 37th and Eisenhower and deposit the proceeds from the sale in a restricted property investment account. The article was also distributed during worship on September 20.

On September 27, we surveyed the congregation regarding the plan, and these are the results.

How likely are you to support such a plan?

79% Very Likely
15% Somewhat Likely
2% Unsure
4% Unlikely

How should annual distributions be spent?

30% Any property expense, including recurring expenses
53% At least half on occasional needs with a 5+ year lifespan
17% Only on occasional needs with a 5+ year lifespan

When asked about church membership, only two respondents were non-members.

Soup Luncheon with Potluck Sides & Desserts Sunday, October 18



Our fellowship meal in October will coincide with the called church conference on October 18. We will begin at noon and convene our meeting once everyone is through the serving line. The Staff Pastor Parish Relations Committee will provide soups, and the congregation is invited to bring side dishes or desserts.

World Communion Sunday Special Offering October 4



World Communion Sunday celebrates the unity and diversity of the universal Christian community. United Methodist contributions to this special offering fund training and scholarships for under-represented students.

Special Church Conference October 18 - 12:30 p.m.



At the request of local church leadership, our District Superintendent, the Rev. Dr. Charles Murithi, has called a Special Church Conference to be held on Sunday, October 18, 2026, at 12:30 p.m. in Wesley Hall at Norfolk First United Methodist Church, 406 W. Phillip Ave., Norfolk, NE 68701.

The purpose of this Special Church Conference is to consider and act upon the following motion:

To approve the sale of the parcel of land at 37th & Eisenhower and the disposition of proceeds from the sale.

The business transacted at this session shall be limited to the item stated above. As this is a Church Conference, all professing members of Norfolk First United Methodist Church shall have both voice and vote.

Details of the proposed resolution include:

- Authorizes the sale of the property for no less than \$300,000.
- Trustees may reject any offer they consider insufficient, even if it exceeds \$300,000. (*this number is a "floor," not a "price"*)
- Allows the Trustees to contract with a land broker or other professional to market the property. (*likely sold by sealed bid*)
- Creates a "Property Investment Fund" from the net proceeds.
- Transfers the current "New Building Fund" to the "Property Investment Fund."
- Establishes oversight by the Church Endowment Committee.
- Invests with the Nebraska United Methodist Foundation.
- Provides an annual distribution equal to 4.5% of the fund's average balance for the previous 12 months.
- Restricts annual distributions to building and property use, primarily for projects with a lifespan of at least five years.
- Allows unused annual distributions to be held in reserve for future building and property needs. (*use restrictions still apply*)
- Reinvests earnings beyond the annual distribution, allowing the fund to continue growing.
- Requires a Church Conference, meaning a congregational vote, to change the restrictions governing the fund.

Harvest Party & Trunk or Treat **Sunday, October 25** **5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.** **Westridge UMC**

Once again we are joining with Westridge UMC for a FALL HARVEST PARTY! Bring the whole family and join in an evening of fall food and fun!

DECORATE YOUR CAR AND PASS OUT CANDY
ENJOY GAMES AND ACTIVITIES
BRING THE KIDS FOR TRUNK-OR-TREAT
OR JUST COME FOR THE SOUP SUPPER

How can you help?

In addition to decorating your trunk, you can donate candy and prizes, or sign up to provide food. The sign-up sheet will be passed during worship.

We had a great turnout for our welcome back bowling party! It was nice for the youth to catch up and have fun together. We will be discussing and selecting our service projects in the next few weeks. (We are always open to suggestions.) We will be honoring childhood cancer awareness month by sending cards to children in the hospital.

Youth



Pastor APPRECIATION MONTH

The Staff Parish Relations Committee (SPRC) would like to remind you that October is Pastor Appreciation Month. We hope you'll consider taking a few moments to let our clergy and staff know how much you value everything they do to enrich our spiritual lives.

Shelley Lammers
 Chairperson, SPRC

Grant Elementary School Gift Cards for Teachers

Goodness, the teachers were buzzing about the cards and the gift cards from the church. They were so grateful! One teacher just sat and looked at it for a long time. She was in awe, being so used to just having to buy things with her own money!

Lisa Moreno, Counselor
 Grant Elementary School

Thank You

Thank you to the people who painted our garden shed and put new trim on it.

Also, thank you to those who helped with the community garden and the committee for all of their hard work.

A Monstrous Amount of Food

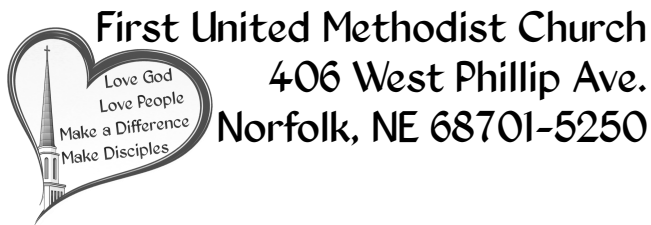
The Community Garden is quickly closing in on 700 pounds of fresh produce harvested and donated to local food ministries, and we aren't done yet!



First United Methodist Church

October 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27 8:30 AM Worship Service - Sanctuary 9:45 AM Children's Sunday School - Floor 2 9:45 AM Retirees and Wannabes Adult Sunday School - Room 110 9:45 AM Fellowship Coffee - Wesley Hall 11:00 AM Worship Service - Sanctuary / Online	28 3:00 PM Jesus is Lord Study - Room 110 6:00 PM Jesus is Lord Study - Online 6:00 PM Finance - Fellowship Hall 7:00 PM Ad. Council - Fellowship Hall 7:00 PM Troop 122 - Wesley Hall	29 10:00 AM Farm & Ranch Clinic - Room 110 1:00 PM Staff - Room 110 5:30 PM Everybody Eats - West Entry 6:30 PM Methodist Identity Study - Fellowship Hall	30 5:30 PM God Squad - Room 201 5:30 PM Pure Joy - Room 201 6:15 PM Choir - Sanctuary 6:30 PM Community Garden 6:30 PM Youth - Fellowship Hall	1 6:45 AM Early Risers for Christ - Wesley Hall	2	3
4 8:30 AM Worship Service - Sanctuary 9:45 AM Children's Sunday School - Floor 2 9:45 AM Retirees and Wannabes Adult Sunday School - Room 110 9:45 AM Fellowship Coffee - Wesley Hall 11:00 AM Worship Service - Sanctuary / Online	5 3:00 PM Jesus is Lord Study - Room 110 6:00 PM Jesus is Lord Study - Online 7:00 PM Staff Parish - Room 110 7:00 PM Troop 122 - Wesley Hall	6 1:00 PM Staff - Room 110 5:30 PM Everybody Eats - West Entry 6:30 PM Methodist Identity Intro - Fellowship Hall 7:00 PM Trustees - Room 110	7 5:30 PM God Squad - Room 201 5:30 PM Pure Joy - Room 201 6:30 PM Youth - Fellowship Hall	8 6:45 AM Early Risers for Christ - Wesley Hall	9 Newsletter Deadline <i>(note early date)</i>	10
11 8:30 AM Worship Service - Sanctuary 9:45 AM Children's Sunday School - Floor 2 9:45 AM Retirees and Wannabes Adult Sunday School - Room 110 9:45 AM Fellowship Coffee - Wesley Hall 11:00 AM Worship Service - Sanctuary / Online	12 3:00 PM Jesus is Lord Study - Room 110 6:00 PM Jesus is Lord Study - Online 6:30 PM Children & Youth Team - Room 201 7:00 PM Troop 122 - Wesley Hall	13 1:00 PM Staff - Room 110 5:30 PM Everybody Eats - West Entry 6:30 PM Methodist Identity Study - Fellowship Hall 7:00 PM Pack 124 - Wesley Hall	14 5:30 PM God Squad - Room 201 5:30 PM Pure Joy - Room 201 6:15 PM Choir - Sanctuary 6:30 PM Youth - Fellowship Hall	15 6:45 AM Early Risers for Christ - Wesley Hall 10:00 AM - Bel Air 11:00 AM - St Joe 5:15 PM Mission/Evangelism - Room 110	16	17
18 8:30 AM Worship Service - Sanctuary 9:45 AM Children's Sunday School - Floor 2 9:45 AM Retirees and Wannabes Adult Sunday School - Room 110 9:45 AM Fellowship Coffee - Wesley Hall 11:00 AM Worship Service - Sanctuary / Online 12:00 PM Soup Luncheon w/ Potluck Sides & Desserts - Wesley Hall 12:30 PM Church Conference - Wesley Hall	19 3:00 PM Jesus is Lord Study - Room 110 4:00 PM Stephen Ministry - Room 110 6:00 PM Jesus is Lord Study - Online 7:00 PM Troop 122 - Wesley Hall	20 1:00 PM Staff - Room 110 5:30 PM Everybody Eats - West Entry 6:30 PM Open Door Adult Bible Study - Fellowship Hall 7:00 PM Pack 124 - Wesley Hall	21 5:30 PM God Squad - Room 201 5:30 PM Pure Joy - Room 201 6:15 PM Choir - Sanctuary 6:30 PM Youth - Fellowship Hall	22 6:45 AM Early Risers for Christ - Wesley Hall	23 1:00 PM Mission - Orphan Grain Train	24
25 8:30 AM Worship Service - Sanctuary 9:45 AM Children's Sunday School - Floor 2 9:45 AM Retirees and Wannabes Adult Sunday School - Room 110 9:45 AM Fellowship Coffee - Wesley Hall 11:00 AM Worship Service - Sanctuary / Online 5:00 PM Trunk or Treat - Westridge	26 6:00 PM Finance - Fellowship Hall 7:00 PM Troop 122 - Wesley Hall	27 1:00 PM Staff - Room 110 5:30 PM Everybody Eats - West Entry 6:30 PM Open Door Adult Bible Study - Fellowship Hall 7:00 PM Pack 124 - Wesley Hall	28 5:30 PM God Squad - Room 201 5:30 PM Pure Joy - Room 201 6:15 PM Choir - Sanctuary 6:30 PM Youth - Fellowship Hall	29 6:45 AM Early Risers for Christ - Wesley Hall	30 1:00 PM Mission - Orphan Grain Train	31



Non-Profit Organization
US Postage
PAID
Permit 204
Norfolk, NE 68701

Make plans to attend
**Westridge UMC's
Harvest Party &
Trunk or Treat**

PHOTO OPS GAMES FUN
TREATS PRIZES

SOUP SUPPER BAKED GOODS
SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE!

Sunday, October 25, 2026
5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
Westridge UMC
2000 W. Norfolk Ave

Mission Project

Sorting Clothing
1:00 p.m.
Friday, October 23 & 30

**Children's
Sunday School**
9:45 AM


**Chancel Choir
Rehearsal**
Wednesday 6:15 PM

**GOD
SQUAD** WEDNESDAY 5:30 PM

**ON TUESDAYS
EVERYBODY Eats
at 5:30pm
Free Meals to Go!**

 **Youth Group**
Grades 7-12
6:30 PM Wednesday

 **PURE JOY**
Bible, Crafts & Journaling
Grade 3 & Up
5:30 PM Wednesday
Any trouble should be met with
Pure Joy, as it builds character.
James 1:2-4