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Hello PCUMC Family,

Happy Thanksgiving! I give God thanks for each of you and for the blessing it is to serve as your pastor. I am especially grateful for the many ways you engage in ministry, strive to grow in your faith, and serve Jesus through PCUMC.

This past week or so has been a wonderful reminder of who we are as a church family:



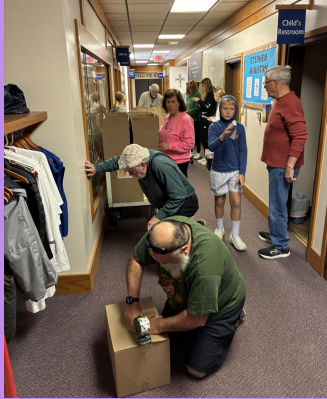
We celebrated the completion of our Good and Beautiful God small-group studies as all three groups came together for a shared meal and Holy Communion.



We served together at the Treasure Chest.

We donated food and funds for 108 Thanksgiving Dinner Blessing Boxes, assembled them, and helped distribute them. (All boxes have found a home for Thanksgiving!)





We decorated our sanctuary and fellowship hall for the Advent and Christmas season.

And we gave our financial commitments for 2026. If you haven't yet done so, you can [click here](#) to complete your commitment card electronically. And there are extra cards at the Connect Center.

These things remind me of what a generous, loving congregation we have at PCUMC. It's no surprise that on Sunday we welcomed five new members into our church family - Lorrie and Weber Koesema, Linda Nielsen, Cynthia Snodgrass, and Brenda Sotelo. We welcome you and celebrate your commitment!

This week, I invite you to join us as we begin the Advent season. We will sing Christmas carols, light the first candle of the Advent wreath, and make available an Advent devotional for you and your family to take home.

I look forward to celebrating this new season of hope, peace, joy, and love with you.

Giving God thanks for you,

Robert

Sunday, November 30 - First Sunday of Advent

Message: "DON'T MISS THE FOREST FOR THE TREE - Life Between the Trees"

- 9 am - Traditional Worship in the Sanctuary. Watch online at Facebook Live and YouTube
- 10 am - Children's Christmas Program Practice in the Music Room
- 10 to 10:45 am - Social Time in Fellowship Hall
- 10:45 am - Blended Worship in the Sanctuary
- 11:30 am to 1:30 pm - Wags and Wipes Distribution
- NO Youth Group Meeting

Mark Your Calendar

- **Wednesday, November 26 until Monday, December 1 - Office Closed**
- **Monday, December 1 - NO Mondays with the Minister**
- **Tuesday, December 2 - Prayer Team** meets at Noon in the Prayer Chapel
- **Tuesday, December 2 - LIFT with Christmas Program practice** from 4:45 to 5:15 pm
- **Tuesday, December 9 - Prayer Team** meets at Noon in the Prayer Chapel
- **Tuesday, December 9 - LIFT with Christmas Program practice** from 4:45 to 5:15 pm
- **Sunday, December 14 - Children's Christmas Program at 10 am (One Service only)** followed by Cookies with Santa in Fellowship Hall. Sign up in Fellowship Hall to bring



cookies.

- **Thursday, December 18 - Brothers in Christ AT Christmas Banquet.** More info available soon.
- **Christmas Eve - Traditional Candlelight Communion Services** at 5 and 7 pm
- **Sunday, December 28 - A Service of Lessons and Carols-** One service at 9 am

Christmas draws our attention to familiar traditions.

It's hard not to get caught up in the trappings, the toys, the tinsel, and, of course, the tree. But in all the familiarity of Christmas, we can miss the point. This message series invites us to step back from the Christmas tree to see the bigger picture of what it's all about. Beyond the decorations and the gifts lies a far greater story - a vast forest of wonder and meaning for everyone.

So this Christmas, don't miss the forest for the tree!

Don't Miss the Forest for the Tree

Join us for this Advent Series

Sundays at 9 am for the Traditional Service and 10:45 am for the Blended Service

PLATTE CITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
PASTOR ROBERT SEBERT

November 30 - Life Between the Trees
December 7 - Hope from a Tree Stump
December 14 - A Family Tree - Children's Christmas Program (one service at 10 am)
December 21 - Come Down From the Tree
December 24 - Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Services at 5 and 7 pm

Christmas Special Offering

The Offering will pay off the past due lunch balances at Platte City Elementary Schools.

Special Envelopes will be available or make a note on your check or other envelope.

PCUMC is partnering with the Platte County R3 School District Social Workers to adopt 10 families for Christmas. The Angel Tree is up in the Fellowship Hall.

We hope to give a gift to each child and gift cards to Price Chopper, Aldi, Walmart and Quik Trip to each family.

Each angel ornament has a "wish list" for each child in the home shared by their caregivers. The wish list is to give you ideas and suggested sizes, for each child. You do not need to get all the items on the list. We just ask that a gift for each child is given.



Take an angel ornament or gift card ornament from the tree to "adopt" the family. Please have all gifts and gift cards at the church by Sunday, December 14.



The Sanctuary will be adorned with poinsettias beginning December 21.

You can donate a flower for \$10 and dedicate it in Honor Of or in Memory Of Someone Special in your life. (Drop your payment in the offering plate, clearly marked for Poinsettias.)

There are signup sheets at the Connect Center and you can call or email the office.

"Helper" schedule for 2026

Thanks to everyone who has helped throughout the year. Unless I hear from you otherwise, I'll continue to keep you on the rotating schedule.

If you have not helped in the past, and would like to now, please send an email, call the office, sign up at the Connect Center.



Here are the Volunteer Opportunities:

- Greeters for 9 am and 10:45 am Services
- Readers for 9 am Service
- Communion set up and server for both services (first Sunday of the month)

- Straighten the Sanctuary (a few times each month)

I'm hoping to send the first draft to all helpers shortly after Thanksgiving.

~ Linda



Brothers in Christ AT is taking a break.
The next meeting will be January 15, 2026.

Watch for information about the Christmas Banquet scheduled for December 18.

The Blessing Box continues to be used frequently and is being refilled daily, sometimes more than once.

If you would like to contribute, please place the items in the grocery cart outside of Fellowship Hall.

And if you would like to help stock the Blessing Box, please sign up at the Connect Center or call/email the office.

Current requests are for items that will not be impacted by freezing temperatures.

- Cereal
- Instant oatmeal
- Powdered and/or canned milk
- Macaroni and cheese
- Boxed &/or instant potatoes
- Gravy packets
- Sugar
- Brown sugar
- Flour
- Salt
- Toilet paper



Wags and Wipes Distribution is this Sunday, November 30 from 11:30 am to 1:30 pm.

More wipes will be helpful - the supply of diapers is good.



Children's Church (Sunday School)

The November unit is "Never Fear, Jesus is Here!", from the gospels of Luke and Mark.

[Click here to check out the Children's page on the website for full details.](#)

remember:

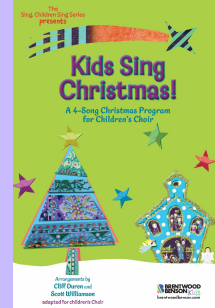
"He saved us, not because of the righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy." ~ Titus 3:5

Children's Christmas Program Rehearsal

- Tuesdays during LIFT from 4:45 to 5:15 pm
- 10 am following the Traditional service on Sundays

If your child does not attend LIFT, and would like to participate in the Christmas Program, please let Carrie know.

They are welcome to come to all rehearsals.



The November unit is "Thankfulness" and comes from the books of 1 Chronicles, Jeremiah, Psalms and the Gospel of Luke.

Memory Verse is 1 Chronicles 16:8: *"Give praise to the Lord, proclaim his name; make known among the nations what he has done."*

[Click here to read full details on the Children's page of the website.](#)



Youth Group meets on Sunday evenings from 6 to 8 and begins with dinner.

All students in Middle School and High School are invited to attend.

Always a Good Time! Invite your Friends!

Here are a few things coming up in our ministry . . .

- November 02 - Youth Group from 6-8
- November 09 - Youth Group from 6-8
- November 16 - Youth Group from 6-8
- November 23 - Youth Group from 6-8
- November 30 - NO Youth Group - Thanksgiving Break



AFTER YOU

A 4-Week Series for the month of November from the New Testament on Loving Others

[Click here to read the full schedule with all the details on the Youth page of the website.](#)

Instant Church Directory



Get the App or go to
instantchurchdirectory.com



Have you downloaded and completed your Profile and Picture in the Instant Church Directory?

(If you've already added a picture, you can update or make a change anytime.)

[You can read instructions for all devices here.](#)



One of the clearest marks of a healthy church is a commitment to prayer. Prayer binds us together. Prayer helps us grow closer to God. Prayer shapes who we are and what we do. Prayer changes things.

- Every Tuesday at noon, The Prayer Team meets in the Prayer Chapel.
- Every Wednesday afternoon, the Prayer Chain email group receives a list of Prayer Concerns. If you would like to be a part of this Prayer Ministry, please respond to this email or call the church office.

As always, if you have prayer requests, you may complete a Prayer Request Card or contact the church office or Pastor Robert.



Our Mission

To make new disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Our Vision

Ignite: Faith. Hope. Love

PCUMC is a place where FAITH is kindled, HOPE is ignited, and God's LOVE burns bright through us into our church, community, and world.



You can view past worship services any time using these links.
FYI - Facebook only retains the videos for 30 days.

Click [here](#) for all staff email addresses.
Click [here](#) for info about giving options and [here](#) for a form to schedule automatic payments.



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