

This Week's Schedule

Today	9:00 a.m.	Sunday School for PK-8th & adults
	9:15 a.m.	Praise band practice (sanctuary)
	10:10 a.m.	Worship/Chancel Choir/ Commitment Sunday
	11:15 a.m.	Fellowship (Schuldt Dining Hall)
Mon., 11/17	9 a.m.-12 p.m. & 1-3 p.m. Church office open	
	10:00 a.m.	Pastor Mike at Cherokee County Ministerial Assoc. (Meriden E. Free)
	12:00 p.m.	Pastor Mike at Rotary
	7:00 p.m.	Alcoholics Anonymous
Tues., 11/18	9 a.m.-12 p.m. & 1-3 p.m. Church office open	
	9:00 a.m.	Missions Committee distributes food (church library)
	1:30 p.m.	Sleeping mat weaving mission (Feller Lounge)
Wed., 11/19	9 a.m.-12 p.m. & 1-3 p.m. Church office open	
	1:30 p.m.	Joyful Charity Circle (Schuldt Dining Hall)
	5:45 p.m.	Bell Choir practice (sanctuary)
	6:00 p.m.	Teen Time (409 Centennial Drive)
	6:30 p.m.	Chancel Choir practice (choir room)
	7:00 p.m.	Alcoholics Anonymous
Thurs., 11/20	9 a.m.-12 p.m. & 1-3 p.m. Church office open	
		Newsletter information due.
Fri., 11/21	Church office closed & Pastor Mike's day off	
Sat., 11/22	11 a.m.- 4 p.m. Schuldt Dining Hall Reserved	
Sun., 11/23	9:00 a.m.	Sunday School for PK-8th & adults
	10:10 a.m.	Worship Guest Speaker: Linda Burkhart
	11:15 a.m.	Thanksgiving dinner (Schuldt Dining Hall)
	4:00 p.m.	Community Thanksgiving service (sanctuary)

Last Week's Attendance

11/9 Worship: 97	11/9 Sunday School: 31*
11/5 Teen Time: 12*	*includes adult leaders



Welcome to Worship!

November 16, 2025

10:10 a.m.



ST. PAUL'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



531 W. Main Street, Cherokee, Iowa 51012
www.cherokeemethodist.com

Nicci's Hours: 9-12 & 1-3 M-T-W-Th

Office Telephone: (712) 225-3955

Office Texting Number: (712) 227-3291

Office Email: cherokeespumc@gmail.com

Pastor Mike's Email: michael.agnew@iaumc.net

Pastor Mike's Cell: (563) 506-7412

Order of Worship

* Indicates that all who are able are invited to stand in praise of God.

Prelude and Ringing of the Bell

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

Leader: I am about to create new heavens and a new earth.

People: Thus says our God, the Holy One.

Leader: Be glad and rejoice in this new creation.

People: Celebrate all that is coming to you.

Leader: For your weeping shall be met with rejoicing.

People: And your suffering will be overtaken by new life.

Leader: You shall build homes and live in them;

People: plant gardens and eat from them.

Leader: Whenever you call, I will answer.

People: When you cry out, I will come.

Leader: Heaven and earth will be filled with my peace.

People: Everything will become a new creation.

Opening Prayer

*Praise Song	"Forever"	See Screen
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Children's Time

*The Apostles' Creed		No. 881
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Special Music	"Give Thanks"	Chancel Choir
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A Time of Prayer and The Lord's Prayer		No. 895
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*Hymn	"O Jesus, I Have Promised"	No. 396
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Scripture Reading	Matthew 25:14-30	
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Message	"Investing in the Kingdom"	
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Commitment Sunday Information

Offering

*Doxology	"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"	No. 94
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*Offertory Prayer

*Hymn	"I Surrender All" (v. 1,3,4,5)	No. 354
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*Benediction	"The Lord Bless You and Keep You"	Chancel Choir
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Postlude



Staff and Today's Worship Assistants

Pastor: Mike Agnew

Administrative Assistant: Nicci Lundquist

Financial Secretary: Sarah Cook

Custodian: Betty Harman

Organist/Pianist: Betty Point

North Greeters: Meribeth Adams

Nursery: Macy Gravenish

Liturgist: Linda Appleby

Children's Time: Heidi Gerstandt

Ushers: Kevin & Karla Wilkie, Mike & Dee Taylor,
and Betty Harman

Drummer: Kent Lundquist

Guitarist: Charlie Leissler

Bell Choir Director:

Dusty Basten

Chancel Choir Director:

Now Hiring!



The altar arrangement is given by
Craig & Monica Schmidt in honor of
their 14th wedding anniversary
on November 26th.

November 23rd Worship Assistants

Guest Speaker: Linda Burkhart

Organist/Pianist: Chris Andersen

North Greeters: Gene & Jean Anderson

Liturgist: Jerri Hunt

Children's Time: Sophie Scherbring and Lola Christensen

Ushers: Lowell & Sharon Bennink, Curt & Kristal Phillips,
and Gene & Jean Anderson

Flowers: Families of Tim & Kim Wych, Trent & Korrie Coombs, and
Kelly & Kristi Kannegieter

Nursery: Sophie Scherbring

Resources Available for Worship

Welcome! Assistive listening devices and children's activity bags are available in the narthex. Please inquire at the sound booth if you would like to try an assistive listening device. If your child needs a changing table, one is available in the bathroom under the west entrance staircase and in the nursery.

Nursery Available

Children of all ages are welcome in our worship service! If you prefer, we also have a staffed nursery available for birth through 2nd graders located on the second floor of the education wing in the first classroom closest to the sanctuary. There is a smart TV in the room, so you are able to watch worship.



All are welcome for a time of fellowship and snacks in
Schuldt Dining Hall following the service.

This is a great way to get to know one another!



Everyone is invited to enjoy this delicious Thanksgiving dinner next Sunday!

2025 Advent Studies

Option 1
Sundays
6:30 p.m.
Nov. 30, Dec. 7, 14, & 21
Feller Lounge

Option 2
Tuesdays
10 a.m.
December 2, 9, 16, & 23
Feller Lounge

The Advent studies will be reading the book, *Voices of Advent: The Bible's Insights For a Season of Hope*, by Matthew Skinner. In *Voices of Advent*, Matthew L. Skinner leads readers through biblical texts and explores how they shape our lives and Christmas celebrations. We listen as Jesus promises to return to us in the future, to John the Baptist as he prepares the way for the Messiah, to the faithful people and poets who anticipate the magnificence of Jesus's birth, and to the angels and visionaries who praise God when Christmas dawns. Listen carefully to the Bible's various perspectives that shape our preparations for Christmas; you will hear hope in all of them.

The cost of the study is \$15.50, but financial assistance is available, if needed. Sign up in the narthex on Sunday, or call the church office during the week.

St. Paul's United Methodist Church
531 W. Main Street, Cherokee
cherokeemethodist.com
(712) 225-3955

Sign-up and books are available in the narthex.

Welcome to St. Paul's United Methodist Church

We pray that God will use this time to speak to you and help you grow in your faith journey. Would you like to stay connected with the activities happening here? Follow us on Facebook. You can find the link to our Facebook page, YouTube channel, and sermon podcast on our website at <https://www.cherokeemethodist.com>.

Thank You Note

Thank you to Shelley Lenz and Jean Anderson for the food brought to me. It was so good.

Alyce Hirschman

Teen Time Update

Plans have changed for our November gatherings. We were so fortunate to raise over \$3,000.00 from our pie auction and tavern luncheon this past March. We would like to use some of these funds to support our two local food pantries. We decided November is the perfect month to do this.

On Wednesday, November 12th, we met at Godfather's Pizza, at 6:00 p.m., and enjoyed supper together before we went to Fareway Grocery store to shop from a list we gathered of needed supplies for the "CAP" (Food Pantry at the Catholic church) where we unloaded groceries and met with the person in charge.

On Wednesday, November 19th, we will meet to eat at our home, 409 Centennial Drive, and proceed to Hy-Vee Grocery store to shop from a compiled list of needed supplies for the food pantry at the Trinity Lutheran Church. We will then meet with the person in charge there and unload groceries.

God has blessed our Teen Time richly through donations of members and friends of St. Paul's UMC. We in turn hope to be a blessing to others through this mission of thanks giving.

Respectfully,
Craig & Monica Schmidt

"Surviving the Holidays"

Storm Lake United Methodist Church will be hosting, "Surviving the Holidays," a GriefShare event, November 23, from 5:00-7:00 p.m. For more information, contact Pastor Mike, or call the church office.

Guest Speaker, Linda Burkhart, next Sunday!

Linda Burkhart will be the guest speaker for Sunday, November 23rd, as Pastor Mike will be out of town attending the All State Band performance for Ava Agnew.

Food or Funds Drive Ends Today!



Today is our last day to collect non-perishable food items, toiletries, and monetary gifts for our area food pantries. Food and toiletries may be placed in the shopping carts at the north entrance and in the narthex. For monetary donations, please mark your check memo or envelope for "Food or Funds."

The Missions Committee will be sorting and dispersing these donations on Tuesday, November 18th, at 9:00 a.m. Thanks for helping our community!

Poinsettia Orders Due Today!

If you would like to help decorate the sanctuary on Christmas Eve, **poinsettia order forms can be found in your bulletin and are due today, as Nicci will be placing our order with Blooming House tomorrow.** The cost is \$17.30 per plant and includes a poinsettia in a 6.5" pot, foil, a sheer ribbon, a tray, and a portion of the delivery fee. Checks can be made out to St. Paul's UMC.



2026 Stewardship Update

Today is Commitment Sunday, which is when we turn in our 2026 pledge cards. The stewardship mailing went out on November 6th. If you would like a copy and have not received one by mail, extras are available on the table in the narthex. Please return your pledge card today by putting it in the offering plate as it is passed.

 With great joy, I/we, (name) _____, respond to God's blessings with a commitment to the ministries of St. Paul's U.M.C. in 2026.

General Budget (ministries/utilities/staff/etc.):	\$ _____ every week / month / year (circle one)
Capital Improvement:	\$ _____ every week / month / year (circle one)
Next Generation (education wing improvements):	\$ _____ every week / month / year (circle one)
Stained Glass Window Restoration:	\$ _____ every week / month / year (circle one)

This commitment can be increased or decreased during the year due to changes in circumstances.

☐ I would like information on including St. Paul's in my estate planning.
☐ I would like to continue having automatic check payments. (We will send you a renewal form to sign.)
☐ I would like information about setting up automatic check payments.

Please bring this card to worship on Commitment Sunday (November 16, 2025), or return it to the church office. If you have questions about your giving, please contact Sarah Cook, our financial secretary. Thank you for your gift to support our ministries!



Chocolate Advent Calendars

Mark your calendar for Sunday, November 30th, as Jeanne Blackstone will be giving the children's message, which includes the beloved chocolate advent calendars!



Decorating the Sanctuary for Advent

All ages are invited to help decorate the sanctuary for Advent on Monday, November 24th, at 5:30 p.m. Following the decorating, stay for a pizza supper in the narthex. Join us for a fun evening!



Community Thanksgiving Service

Sunday, November 23, 2025

4 p.m. at St. Paul's

United Methodist Church

531 W. Main Street, Cherokee

Sponsored by the Cherokee County Ministerial Association

A Community Choir will be performing!



Would you like to be part of this community choir performance on Sunday, November 23rd, at 4:00 p.m.? Practice will begin at 3:00 p.m. on Sunday, November 23rd, in the sanctuary.

All are welcome to participate!

Mitten Tree



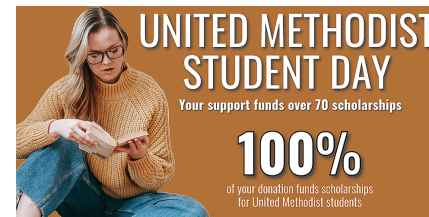
Beginning November 25th, there will be a Christmas tree at the north entrance and another one in the narthex to collect hats, mittens, scarves, gloves, and socks for those in need in our community.

Salvation Army Bell Ringers Needed



The Salvation Army is needing bell ringers in Cherokee this year. Additional information can be found on the table in the narthex on Sundays, or you may contact Glenda Parrish at 712-221-9801.

United Methodist Student Day



November 30th is United Methodist Student Day. On this Sunday, United Methodists focus on the value of education by collecting a special offering "to support and advance the education of our children. This

helps to fund over 70 scholarships for undergraduate, graduate, and doctoral programs for United Methodist students. Every dollar received supports and educates a new generation of leaders for the United Methodist Church. One-hundred percent of the funds collected on United Methodist Student Day are used to fund over 70 scholarships. The scholarship program awards members of the church who are pursuing higher education, from incoming college freshmen through doctoral level students. With the general online application, a student may be considered for any of the scholarship programs." Learn more at <https://www.umc.org/en/content/united-methodist-student-day-sunday-ministry-article>.

Children's Choir and Noisy Offering



The children's choir (all Sunday School kids PK-5th) will sing Sunday, November 30th, during worship at 10:10 a.m.

Sunday, November 30th, we will also have a special noisy offering (spare change) to benefit our children's ministries.

Parents, guardians, grandparents, teachers, neighbors, and friends, join us in worship to witness the kids singing for the glory of God!



2025 Advent Sermon Series: A Very Special Christmas

Journey through Advent with us as we explore some of the iconic Christmas shows and what they have to teach us about our faith.

- 11/30 "Frosty, the Snowman"
Psalm 30; Luke 1:26-38
- 12/7 "Rudolph, the Red-Nosed Reindeer"
Galatians 3:25-29; Luke 2:1-6
- 12/14 "Polar Express"
Matthew 1:18-21; Hebrews 11:1
- 12/21 "It's a Wonderful Life"
Matthew 5:14-16
- 12/24 "A Charlie Brown Christmas"
Luke 2:1-20

St. Paul's United Methodist Church, 531 W. Main Street, Cherokee

Christmas Cookie Exchange

Sunday, December 7, 2025

Suggested \$5/plate donation to receive a baker's dozen (13)

To Donate Cookies:
Please bring donated cookies to Feller Lounge from 8 a.m. - 12 p.m. on Saturday, December 6th. If you need pick-up service instead, please contact the office.

To Purchase Cookies:
Cookie plates will be assembled during the Sunday School hour on December 7th and will then be available for purchase in the narthex before and after our 10:10 a.m. worship service.

Proceeds support the ministries of the Adult Class and St. Paul's UMC.

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Advent Devotionals Available

Sunday, November 30th, is the first day of Advent. Free Advent devotionals from the Society of St. Andrew are available on the table in the narthex.



Christmas Tea



The United Women in Faith of the Peterson United Methodist Church (103 E. 3rd St.) invite all women to attend their annual Christmas Tea on Saturday, December 6th. A program will begin at 2:00 p.m. Arrive early to view the beautifully decorated tables.

Mat Weaving Mission

Volunteers meet on Tuesdays, at 1:30 p.m., to make sleeping mats from repurposed plastic shopping bags. People of a variety of ages and skills can contribute to this process: flattening and cutting bags as well as weaving the mats. **We do not need plastic bags at this time.** If you would like to help, or learn more about this mission, please join us on Tuesday afternoons.

