

Union Creek Lutheran Church
PO Box 246
Akron, Iowa 51001

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

1 ONLINE COPY



EASTER LILY ORDERS — \$20 EACH

If you would like to purchase an Easter Lily, please fill out this form and leave it in the offering plate or mail the form to April Sommervold, 48044 311th St., Akron. Please include payment with your order.

If you can't get the order mailed in time, you can contact Joni at joni.noble123@gmail.com or text to 712.552.7669 to reserve a plant; if April receives your payment late, that will be okay.

Ordering deadline is April 3rd

Given By

In Memory Of / In Honor Of

Union Creek Lutheran Church is a member of the SD Synod of the
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

The Creation is the monthly publication of Union Creek Lutheran Church

PO Box 246 • 31030 481st Avenue
Akron, Iowa 51001-0246

2026 Church Council

Numbers indicate term/year

Patti Ericson 2/3

* Connie Tentinger 2/1

President Nick McKee 1/3

Vice President Tom Podzimek 1/3

Lance Johnson 1/2

Jim Bundy 1/2

Felicia Miller 1/2

Sherri McKee, Treasurer

April Sommervold, Financial Secretary
(not on Council)

**Elected for 2026*

Patti *will not* be eligible for reelection.
Nick & Tom *will* be eligible.

Worship With Us!

9:00 a.m. Worship Service

10:00 a.m. Fellowship

10:30 a.m. Sunday School
(September – mid-May)

VBS: First full week of August

Communications

[https://www.facebook.com/
UnionCreekLutheranChurch](https://www.facebook.com/UnionCreekLutheranChurch)

2026 Council President

Nick McKee

712.551.6460

2026 Council Vice President

Tom Podzimek

605.933.0848

Joni Noble, Church Secretary

31357 481st Avenue, Akron, IA 51001

712.552.7669

joni.noble123@gmail.com

Offering & Attendance

February 22—Attendance 31 / Offering: \$635

March 8—Attendance: 34 / Offering: \$1,755

March 15—No service due to weather

March 22—Attendance: 35 / Offering: \$430

Cash Rent: \$3,822.50

April Scripture Readings

April 5: Acts 10:34-43; Psalm 118: 1-2, 14-24; Colossians 3:1-4; Matthew 18:1-10

April 12: Acts 2:14a, 22-32; Psalm 16; 1 Peter 1:3-9; John 20:19-31

April 19: Acts 2:14a, 36-41; Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19; 1 Peter 1:17-23; Luke 24:13-35

April 26: Acts 2:42-47; Psalm 23; 1 Peter 2:19-25; John 10:1-10

April Birthdays

Jason Robinson-1
Ron Siemers, Jr-2
Johnny Van Wyk-4
Alyssa Eden-4
Elaine Swift-10
Duane Forslund-10
Emma Robinson-12
Natalie Joenks-12
Adam Fickbohm-14
Tom Tentinger-16
TJ Podzimek-16
Kade Kjose-23
Eloise DeWit-25
Nolan Johnson-27
Hudson Hohenstein-28
Sienna Doty-30

Thank You

Thank you to everyone who helped with the kitchen cleaning project!

Prayer Concerns

Joann Hedeby
PeeWee Kincaid
Becky Kjose
Duane Forslund
Ron Siemers
Marilyn Heeren
Penny & Richard Britt
Doug Eckmann
Dylan Haverhals
Nettie Dunham

Thanks be to God!

Our hearts are full of thanksgiving. PeeWee's grandson, Staff Sgt. Daniel Kincaid, returned safely from Syria on March 12th. Your prayers over the past ten months have meant so much to our family. As Daniel adjusts to civilian life, your continued prayers are deeply appreciated.

Thanks be to God!

PeeWee, Sherri & Family

Monthly / Weekly Worship Duties

April Communion & Bread

Paulette G

APRIL 5 Easter Sunday

Greeter: Marleigh

Usher & Bell: Dave

Lector: Dave

Communion: Marleigh

Fellowship: Easter Breakfast

APRIL 12

Greeters: Brad/Deb

Usher & Bell: Brad

Lector: Deb

Fellowship: Brad/Deb

APRIL 19

Greeters: Kevin/Paulette

Usher & Bell: Kevin

Lector: Paulette V

Communion: Paulette V

Fellowship: Kevin/Paulette

APRIL 26

Greeters: Rob/Deb

Usher & Bell: Rob

Lector: Sherri

Fellowship: Rob/Deb



May Communion & Bread

April

MAY 3

Greeters: Carol

Usher & Bell: Dene

Lector: Carol

Communion: Patti

Fellowship: Dene/Jean

MAY 10

Greeter: Gary/Karen

Usher & Bell: Gary

Lector: Karen

Fellowship: Gary/Karen

MAY 17

Greeters: Bruce/Patti

Usher & Bell: Bruce

Lector: Patti

Communion: Patti

Fellowship: Bruce/Patti

MAY 24

Greeters: Jason/Letitia

Usher & Bell: Jason

Lector: Letitia

Fellowship: Jason/Letitia

MAY 31

Greeters: Sherri/Ryland

Usher & Bell: Sherri/Ryland

Lector: Sherri

Fellowship: Sherri/Ryland

Council Minutes

March 18, 2026

Present: Jim Bundy, Tom Podzimek, Felicia Miller, Patti Ericson, Nick McKee, Connie Tentinger, Sherri McKee, Treasurer.

President Nick called the meeting to order. Sherri said a prayer

Secretary’s Report: Patti made a motion to accept the report and Jim seconded. MC.

Treasurer’s Report:

Balance 01.31.26	\$49,185.79
Inflows	6,340.79
Outflows	24,567.89
Balance 02.28.26	\$30,958.69

Youth Report: The Lent services on Wednesday nights with a meal have started. The Easter breakfast will be served by the youth on April 5. The meat sticks sale will be starting Sunday March 22 at \$1.25 per stick.

Old Business: Sherri said the website has gone through a checklist and is now up and running. The Call Committee has met and will restart the process of looking for a new Pastor. Tom is looking for contractors for the electrical work that needs to be done for the upstairs. We are still looking for a pastor to teach confirmation classes for both churches.

Next Meeting: April 15, at 7:30 p.m.

Being no further business a motion by Patti seconded by Jim to adjourn the meeting. MC.

We all said the Lords Prayer .

*Connie Tentinger
Council Secretary*

Youth News & Thank You

2 Months—2 Powerful Impacts!

Thanks to everyone who opened their hearts and wallets to support ELCA Good Gifts through our Noisy Offerings. These gifts are truly life-changing! We are making a difference around the world from right here in rural Union County, South Dakota.

- January -

Computer for a community center—\$206
That’s the kind of gift that keeps giving— access to technology can open doors for education, communication, and opportunity.

- February -

Environmentally friendly cookstoves—\$216
Clean cookstoves make a real difference in health, safety, and sustainability.
That is a meaningful contribution to both people and the planet.

- March -

In support of Pastor Chris Matson and her mission, the Noisy Offering will be designated for Church on the Street ministries. Thank you to Pastor Chris for leading our March 29th Palm Sunday Worship Service!

- April -

ELCA Good Gifts

Give your neighbor a fish, and they’ll eat for a day. Give your neighbors a community fish farm, and they’ll eat for a lifetime. A fish farm begins with a pond, training, and a few fast-growing fish.

Union Creek's Website Now Online

unioncreekchurch.org

Union Creek may be more than 150 years old, but our historic congregation is proving it is anything but stuck in the past. With the launch of our new site, we are opening a fresh doorway into our congregation — welcoming not only longtime members but anyone seeking spiritual growth, renewed hope, or a place to belong.

The website is a beautiful blend of tradition and innovation: honoring 150 years of faith while stepping confidently into the digital age.

This month, our church unveiled a new website — a modern, welcoming digital home crafted by graphic designer Erica Kjar. Check us out at unioncreekchurch.org.

The creation of Union Creek's new website began with a small team of dedicated members who shared a clear vision for the church's future. Dan Haeder, Karen McCrill, Letitia Robinson, and Sherri McKee met regularly over several months, shaping everything from written content to visual design. Their commitment, creativity, and collaboration laid the foundation for a site that reflects both the heritage and the forward-looking spirit of our congregation.

We are more than just Sunday morning. Our website offers far more than service times and announcements. It is a window into the life of

Union Creek—filled with helpful information, beautiful photos of our church and grounds, and a clear expression of our core values and beliefs as an ELCA Lutheran congregation. You will also find current news and events, making it easy to stay connected with everything happening in our church family.

From worship updates to WELCA activities to the busy schedule of our youth group, the site brings together all the ways our church learns, serves, and grows throughout the week.

Union Creek offers a collection of materials and media to help you stay connected with our ministries, our people, and our mission. They are a great way to keep up with worship details, announcements, and ongoing ministries.

- ◆ Weekly bulletins and monthly newsletters are available to view or download anytime.
- ◆ If you cannot join us in person, you can still be part of our worshiping community. Weekly services are livestreamed, allowing you to participate from wherever you are.
- ◆ The past year's Annual Church Report is available in full.
- ◆ The current WELCA book is also provided in its entirety.

We know visiting a church for the first time can bring a lot of questions. That is why we've created a special page just for newcomers—a simple, friendly guide to help anyone feel comfortable before they arrive. On this page, they will find clear answers to the things people most often wonder about, including:

- ◆ What are our services like
- ◆ What to wear
- ◆ What to expect for your kids
- ◆ Who is welcome to take Communion
- ◆ Accessibility information
- ◆ How to become a member

We are excited to share that Union Creek now offers a secure online Giving link on our website. This new feature makes supporting our ministries easier than ever. You can give using a credit or debit card or through a direct bank transfer, all within a safe and trusted platform.

To make giving even more convenient, you can choose between:

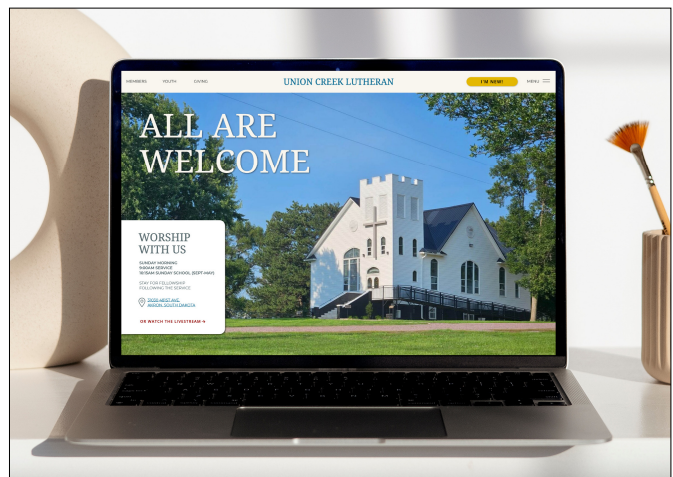
- ◆ One-time gifts
- ◆ Recurring gifts set to weekly, monthly, or yearly


It is a simple, flexible way to support the mission and ongoing work of our church—whether you're worshipping with us in person or from afar.

We would love to hear from you. If you have ideas for additional information or features you would like to see on our website, we would be delighted to hear them. Your perspective helps us keep the site useful, inviting, and reflective of our church community. Please feel free to reach out to us at:

unioncreekchurch@gmail.com.

Erica Kjar, now living in North Carolina, is the founder of Your Design Gal Studio, where she builds strategic, user-friendly websites for a variety of clients across the country. Her work with Union Creek marks a meaningful step in the church's mission to stay connected in a rapidly changing world. With gratitude, we extend a heartfelt thank you for her professionalism, knowledge, and mostly her patience during the creation of our website.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat		
<h1>April</h1>								
		1	6:00 p.m. Lent Supper 7:00 p.m. Final Lent Bible Study #6 <i>Luther's Small Catechism:</i> <i>Confession and Forgiveness</i>	2	7:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday Svc @ Roseni	3	4	12:00 p.m. Easter Breakfast Prep
		6	7	8	9	10	11	
		5 <i>Easter Sunday</i> 7:00 a.m. Communion Svc <i>Pastor April Peterson</i> <i>Mike Pedersen, Organist</i> 8:00 a.m. Easter Breakfast prepared & served by the Youth			2:00 p.m. Joint Worship & Music Commit- tee Meeting @ Roseni			
		12	13	14	15	16	17	18
		12 <i>2nd Sunday of Easter</i> 9:00 a.m. Worship Svc <i>Todd Hakl, Lay Speaker</i> <i>Naomi Graves, Organist</i> 10:00 a.m. Fellowship 10:30 a.m. Sunday School		7:30 p.m. Council		2:00 p.m. WELCA Bible Study		
		19	20	21	22	23	24	25
		19 <i>3rd Sunday of Easter</i> 9:00 a.m. Communion Svc <i>Pastor April Peterson</i> <i>Naomi Graves, Organist</i> 10:00 a.m. Fellowship 10:30 a.m. Sunday School						
		26	27	28	29	30		
		26 <i>4th Sunday of Easter</i> N.O.: <i>ELCA Good Gifts, Fish Farm</i> 9:00 a.m. Worship Service <i>Pastor Renee Splichal Larson</i> <i>Mike Pedersen, Organist</i> 10:00 a.m. Fellowship 10:30 a.m. Sunday School						