The Newsletter
The United Methodist Churches of Laurens & Varina, Iowa

For the week of October 25, 2026 **Volume 44** **Issue 6**

Worship Leaders

Usher Schedule:

November 1: Virginia & Richard Garner, and Jason Gustafson
November 8: Greg Hertz, Brad Rubel, and John Sobotka
November 15: Kelly Tate, and Hunter & Jennifer Valentine
November 22: Jean Murray, and Angie & Aaron Christenson
November 29: Deb Hertz, and Carla & Randy Gustafson

Liturgist Schedule:

November 1 & 8: Kelly Tate
November 15 & 22: Amy Gustafson
November 29: Jean Murray

Acolyte Schedule:

November 1: Kwynn Bailey & Feinox Wiley
November 8: Samantha Zylstra & Gage Gustafson
November 15: Reagan Hertz & Jacob Sobotka
November 22: Matt Rubel & Gage Gustafson
November 29: Reagan Hertz & Kamry Bailey

Thank you to everyone who participates, helps, performs & serves each Sunday morning to help make our worship service & fellowship a wonderful and meaningful experience for all in our worshipping & glorifying of our LORD.

If you are unable to work on your date, please find a replacement and let the office know at 712-841-4476

Varina Announcements . . .

Community Coffee
Wednesday: October 28
Time: 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM
Everyone is welcome to attend.

Varina Community Coffee Dates for November: Nov. 4, 11, 18, 25
From 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM. Everyone is welcome.

November 1:
- ✓ Confirmation begins after worship service.
- ✓ Ingathering donations are due.

November 4: <u>NOTE DATE CHANGE!</u>

Varina Mary Circle will meet in the home of Eldona Hornor at 1:30 pm
Hostess & Devotions: Eldona Horner
Program: Harriet Boothby
Executive Meeting: 1:30 pm

November 18: Varina Administrative Council Meeting @ 7:00 PM.
All are welcome to attend.

November 29:
- ✓ Hanging of the Greens and church decorating followed by <u>Potluck</u>.
- ✓ <u>Hat, mitten, and sock donations</u> due.
- ✓ <u>Personal hygiene products for men and good used clothing for men donations</u> for Church of Damascus are due.

Laurens Announcements . . .

Holiday bazaar

The Laurens United Methodist Women will be holding their annual bazaar on Saturday, November 21, 2026! We are starting a little earlier this year at 9:30 a.m. We will be serving lasagna for a noon lunch starting at 11:00 a.m.

There are many ways for everyone to participate in helping to make this bazaar a success! We have sign-up sheets available in the church narthex for making Christmas cookies; baked goods for breads and cinnamon rolls, pies, muffins, sweet breads; casseroles; treat of month items; good as new items; wood signs; knitting and embroidery items; and for workers the day of the bazaar!

Proceeds from this bazaar are used to help support several local groups: Laurens Congregate Meals, Laurens Care Center, Laurens Food Pantry, Caring lunches, Shaya Bee, the Laurens minister discretionary fund, and our church budget.

Mark your calendars to join us on Saturday, November 21, 2026!

Bazaar Information:

- Good As New: There is a table in Fellowship Hall for your donations. Items do not need to be marked. Anything left after the bazaar will be taken to Good will or Fresh Start Market in Spencer.
- Treat of the Month: Signup sheets are in the Narthex. Please sign up by November 1.
- Quilting, knitting, and crocheting are needed! Anything left at the end of the bazaar, you take home.
- Baked Goods: bread, cinnamon rolls, pies, cakes, bars, and muffins are needed as we no longer bake bread at the church.
- Frozen Casseroles: Suggestions include lasagna, chicken dressing, enchiladas, meatloaf, tator-tot casserole, beef and noodles, pizza pasta, ham balls, pulled pork, twice baked potatoes. There are 8 X 8 containers in the kitchen for you to use if you would like. Casseroles need to be at the church by 8:30 AM on the day of the bazaar.
- Cookie Walk: All shapes, sizes, colors, and flavors are needed. Frosted cut outs are the best sellers.
- Also selling during bazaar: assorted packaged nuts and Jumpy Monkey Premium Coffee. Order sheets for the coffee are in the Narthex.

Silent Auction

The Nativity which will be auctioned during the Holiday Bazaar is on display in Fellowship Hall.

ELECTION DAY

SOUP AND PIE SUPPER

Bethany Lutheran Church

Tuesday November 3rd

Serving from 4:30-7:00

Chili, Chicken Noodle & Broccoli Cheese

Pies, Bars, and Beverages

Call 841-2181 Delivery

Free will offering

Wendy Hopkins

Accura Healthcare of Pomeroy

303 East 7th Street

Pomeroy, IA 50575

Trick or Treat at the Laurens Care Center from 4-5 PM
Trick or Treat by the City of Laurens from 4:30-7:00 PM
Halloween Trunk or Treat at the Fire Station from 5:00 – 6:30 PM. Hot dogs, chips, and water served. All are welcome.
The Magic of Michael Mericle at the Laurens Public Library at 7:00 PM.

United Methodist Churches of Varina and Laurens

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Sunday school @ 9:15 & 9:30 Fellowship Coffee-10:00 Worship- 10:30 **ALL SAINTS SUNDAY** Communion Potluck after worship	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5** **UMW Meeting in The Wesley Room @ 6:00 PM** **Memorial Service**	**6** Megan Bennigsdorf	**7** **UMM Meeting in Fellowship Hall @ 8:00 AM**
8 Sunday school @ 9:15 & 9:30 Fellowship Coffee-10:00 Worship- 10:30	**9**	**10** John Pohlman	**11** **VFW Meal 11AM-1 PM At the Laurens Community Center**	**12** Emma Sobotka Sylvan Zylstra Charlotte Cleveland	**13**	**14** *Brad Rubel*
15 Sunday school @ 9:15 & 9:30 Fellowship Coffee-10:00 Worship-10:30 **Adm Council Meeting at 11:30 AM**	**16**	**17**	**18** **Varina Admin Council Meeting @ 7:00 PM**	**19**	**20** Levi Meier	**21** **UMW Fall Bazaar 9:30 AM-12:30 PM** NEW HOURS!!
22 Sunday School @ 9:15 & 9:30 Fellowship Coffee-10:00 Worship-10:30	**23** Emily Harrold	**24** Cheryl Shaw	**25**	**26** Emma Olson Randy Gustafson **Happy Thanksgiving!** **Church Offices Closed**	**27** Kurtis Benningsdorf	**28**
29 Sunday School @ 9:15 & 9:30 Fellowship Coffee-10:00 AM Worship-10:30 AM United Methodist Student Special Offering **FOT Setup 3-6 PM**	**30** **FOT Setup 12-6 PM**					If your birthday was missed on the calendar, please notify the church office @ 841-4476

LAURENS COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRY HOURS

NOVEMBER 2026

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5 4-6 PM	6	7
8	9	10	11	12 4-6 PM	13	14
15	16	17	18	19 4-6 PM	20	21
22	23	24	25 4-6 PM	26 CLOSED	27	28
29	30 11 AM -1 PM	1	2	3	4	5

201 W. Main, Laurens, Iowa 50554

Laurens UMC
Stewardship, Prayer Requests & Worship Schedule

Stewardship for October 2026:

	Weekly	Year-to-date	Special
Total Receipts for 2026		$ 95,553.14	$ 4,294.40
Total Receipts received for October 4:	$ 3,047.00	$ 98,600.14	$ 243.19 Sept. Qtrs. Ingathering Missions
Total Receipts received for October 11:	$ 3,503.00	$ 102,103.14	$
Total Receipts received for October 18:	$ 3,167.41	$ 105,270.55	$
Total Receipts received for October 25:	$ 598.00	$ 105,868.55	$
Projected Budget Needs 2026:	$ 3,979.66	$ 210,922.00	

Attendance for October 4: Worship Service: 63 Sunday School: 28
Attendance for October 11: Worship Service: 32 Sunday School: 22
Attendance for October 18: Worship Service: 56 Sunday School: 28
Attendance for October 25: Worship Service: 39 Sunday School: 20

Tom Domek, Dave Alstott, The Farmers, Barb Davis, Amy Wilcox, Sam Paton, Deb Spanier, Deborah Wingler, Wendy & Thaine Hopkins, Robyn Cornell, Mandy Reese, April Dalby, Pat Boughey, Amy Gustafson, Karen Johnson, Terry Spanier, Edward Schmidt, Kay Schrecengost, Methodist Church, nursing home residents, our church, victims of all natural disasters, those battling illness, our men & women of the armed forces, our world, and people in Ukraine, and people of Israel.

LAURENS UMC WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday, November 1, 2026:
Youth Sunday School 9:15-10:10 AM
Adult Sunday School 9:30-10:00 AM
Fellowship Coffee 10:00 AM
Worship @ 10:30 AM

321 Main, Varina, Iowa 50593

Varina UMC
Stewardship, Prayer Requests & Worship Schedule

Stewardship for October 2026:

	Weekly	Monthly	Special
Total Receipts for 2026:			
Total Receipts received for October 4:	$ 1,398.00	$ 1,398.00	$ 50.00
Total Receipts received for October 11:	$ 424.00	$ 1,822.00	$
Total Receipts received for October 18:	$ 1,091.00	$ 2,913.00	$ 55.00
Total Receipts received for October 25:	$ 491.00	$ 3,404.00	$ 30.00

Projected Budget Needs for 2026: $ 633.15

Attendance for October 4: Worship Service: 32
Attendance for October 11: Worship Service: 19
Attendance for October 18: Worship Service: 35
Attendance for October 25: Worship Service: 24

Bev Morris, Little Evelyn, The Farmers, Barb Davis, Amy Wilcox, Mandy Reese, Marie Breon, Denise Tegels, Paul Kraft, Carol Siepker, Walt Collins, Julia Collins, The United Methodist Church, our nation, victims of all natural disasters, victims of violence, our men & women of the armed forces, our world, people of Israel, and people in Ukraine.

VARINA UMC WORSHIP SCHEDULE:

Sunday, November 1, 2026
Worship Service at 9:00 a.m.

If you are unable to join us for in-person worship, please worship with us online as our worship services are live-streamed on the Laurens United Methodist Church Facebook page @ 10:30 a.m. every Sunday. Worship services are also available on our website at www.laurensumc.org. Just click on "Sermons/Devotions."

If you or a loved one is ready to be removed from or need added to our prayer list, please call the church office @ (712) 841-4476.

Any items for our Sunday bulletin need to be submitted to the church office @ (712) 841-4476 or methodist@laurensumc.org by 9 A.M. Friday morning. Any items for our weekly church *newsletter* need to be submitted by 9 a.m. on Monday mornings. Thank you for your cooperation.

Contact information:

Rev. Jim Davis: Pastor's Cell phone: 319-321-1705

Pastor's Email: eyeowaypastor@gmail.com

Sue Jarvis, Administrative Assistant: Office (712) 841-4476

Email: methodist@laurensumc.org

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